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LENNOX AND ADDINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

PAPERS AND RECORDS

VOL XI

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THE NORTH AMERICAN

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NAPANEE, ONTARIO
PUBLISHED BY THE SOCIETY
1924

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LENNOX AND ADDINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

PAPERS AND RECORDS

VOL. XI

THE NORTH AMERICAN

BEING A SELECTION OF EDITORIALS FROM THE NORTH AMERICAN, AN OLD NEWSPAPER, AT ONE TIME PUBLISHED IN LENNOX AND ADDINGTON THE FILES OF WHICH WERE PRESENTED TO THE SOCIETY BY HARVARD McNEELIN BROTHER OF THE PUBLISHERS

COMPILED AND EDITED
By WALTER S. HERRINGTON B.C. (Hons.)

NAPANEE, ONTARIO
PUBLISHED BY THE SOCIETY
1924

PRINTED AT THE BEAVER OFFICE

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INTRODUCTION

Over a year ago Mr Harvard McMullen presented to the Society a file of The North American, a weekly newspaper published by his brothers G W and L S McMullen, sixty years ago The first issue appeared on the 26th of June, 1862, and was printed in Napanee in the building opposite the Campbell House, on the south side of Dundas street. In the issue of July 29th, the publishers announced their intention of moving their plant to Newburgh and frankly gave as their reason for so doing that they expected to secure more patronage by way of advertising and subscriptions than was likely to come their way if they remained in Napanee, where the Standard was already established and was considered one of the best edited papers in Eastern Ontario. They continued the publication in Newburgh until May 12th, 1864 when they shifted their plant to Picton. We have gone carefully through all the issues covering a period of two years, and without any attempt at classification, have selected and now present in chronological order such items as we believe will prove instructive and entertaining to the readers of to-day At least two generations have come upon the scene since these articles were penned A perusal of the following pages will revive many memories in the advanced readers, and will give the younger ones a fair insight into the events of the days of their grandparents.

W A HERRINGTON

GLEANINGS FROM

The North American

PUBLISHED IN NEWCASTLE IN 1863-3-4

Market Quotations

For purposes of comparison with present day prices we select from the first issue the following quotations from the Napanee market

	$ c.		$ c.
Wheat, per bus	80	to	90
Barley per bus	50	to	65
Butter per lb	10	to	12
Cheese per lb	7	to	10
Lard per lb	8	to	10
Eggs per doz	7	to	8
Fowls, per pair	25	to	30
Beef, per lb	6	to	8
Ham, per lb	7	to	8
Hay per ton	8 00	to	10 00

Federal Union

The following selections from the first editorial reflect credit upon the writer when we bear in mind that Federation was still several years distant.

"We have always considered favorably as a remedy for existing or prospective difficulties a change in our North American relations,—which has been but partially brought before the Canadian people, but into which we believe it is the duty of every patriotic man to examine, and an adoption of which so far as possible, would in our opinion, prove vastly beneficial to us,—we mean a Federal Union, upon a just basis, of all the British North American Provinces. This system while it would allow each Colony

untrammelled liberty in the management of its own local affairs, would give us, as a whole, a reputation and national character of which our union with Lower Canada has furnished a mere type. It could not be injurious to Upper Canada since it is the largest of all the sections embraced and consequently would have a full and fair share in the general legislation. We believe it would also do away with the unhappy rivalry which the near balance of religious denominations in the two provinces occasions, and would give an opportunity to the different sects to adopt a liberal course towards others, without fear of permanent injury."

* * * * *

"It is to be regretted that no action has been taken by the Canadian authorities in reference to developing the resources of the Northwest Territory and extending the limits of Canada in that direction. We believe this must be done, sooner or later: or the enterprising inhabitants of the neighbouring Union will avail themselves of the discontent already existing in that part of America, to enlarge the boundaries of the great republic."

Defeat of the French in Mexico

It will be remembered that at this time the United States was in the throes of a civil war with no time nor means to pay any attention to external affairs. Mexico, after countless revolutions found its treasury empty and Louis Napoleon, regardless of the Monroe doctrine had invaded the country ostensibly with the view of collecting the debts owing to the French but his real object appeared to be the gaining of a foothold on the Western Continent. The following editorial of July 1st foreshadowed what Napoleon subsequently accomplished, the subjugation of the country and the establishment of an Empire, with his tool, Maximilian brother of Francis Joseph, of Austria, on the throne.

"From accounts received some weeks since, it appears that the French army in Mexico suffered a severe defeat from the native Mexican forces. A later report says that they have capitulated: this lacks confirmation. What effect this defeat will have on the Emperor and his subjects

it is impossible to tell, although reports show a tendency to continue the war. Whether they will endeavour to 'retrieve the honor of France' or consent to withdraw an army already reduced by sickness, and probably disconcerted by defeat, and, moreover engaged in a wicked and useless attempt to subjugate, or as the French Emperor would have it, occupy Mexico, is not certain. The latter is certainly the course which should be pursued, since the object of sending troops to Mexico was merely to enforce the payment of debts, which the Mexicans threatened to repudiate. Almost immediately upon the landing of the allied forces at Vera Cruz, the Mexicans complied with the demands, and England withdrew her forces; not so France, who appeared to wish some pretext for maintaining her ground in that weak and unhappy country,—so long distracted by internal strife.

"Since the reputation of Mexican soldiers was at so low an ebb no one for a moment supposed that they would be at all able to resist successfully the disciplined French veterans. The result has however dispelled any such illusions, for the Mexicans have met them in the open field and defeated them. We, of course, would not for a moment suppose that Mexican soldiers are at all equal to French, under the same circumstances; but when a man feels that he is fighting unmerited oppression, it has a wondrous effect upon him. Some men indeed, who are the veriest cowards in other positions, will resist with unflinching tenacity any innovation on their freedom.

"There can be no mistaking Louis Napoleon's great desire for conquest, but nevertheless we cannot see the propriety of a needless waste of life and money in the conquest of Mexico."

John A. Joins the Sons of Temperance

The press had already begun to keep in close touch with all the movements of John A. Macdonald as is apparent from the following personal reference in the issue of July 22nd.

"We never felt more pleasure than we do in announcing that the Hon. John A. Macdonald was initiated as a Son of

Temperance, on Friday evening last, in the Mechanic's Division, Kingston. This course, on the part of the ex-Attorney General, cannot fail to be beneficial to himself and to the many who almost slavishly follow his example.

By August 12th The North American was comfortably housed in its new quarters on the corner of Main and Concession streets, in the Village of Newburgh and in the number published upon that date the editor again returns to his favorite theme

To Our Patrons

"The North American in changing locations, changes nothing else, it will still maintain the liberal principles it has previously enunciated since its object is to raise Canada and every part of it to its proper sphere. Whoever may oppose, Canada will yet arrive at what she is now so rapidly approaching, a first class position among earth's powers. This consummation can be seriously delayed by internal rivalry or strife. The end is certain, but each one should endeavour as it were, to help fate and share in common with patriotic fellow-countrymen the honor of achieving so great an end.

"Some people, in following the dictates of a contracted self interest, often delay great national moves. We trust that neither the people of this country nor any part of Canada, will oppose aught that makes for the general interests of the community. In speaking of Canada, we do not mean merely the strip, as actually surveyed, but the vast territory stretching from Atlantic to Pacific, known as British North America."

American Troubles

Across the border the North was endeavoring to augment its army in the field by drafting into the service an additional 600 000 men. The shirkers were flocking into Canada to escape conscription and while they were unwelcome guests yet their tales of blood-shed and suffering, bad enough at its best, but no doubt grossly exaggerated, exercised no small influence in moulding public opinion upon this side of the line. The view thus held by Canadians is reflected in the following editorial of August 19th

"Mr Lincoln no doubt has endeavoured to take a very careful and safe course in the administration of his affairs, but in doing so, he has regularly avoided striking at the very foundation (slavery) and acknowledged cause of the present contest which has prolonged the war to the present fearful era & when the result appears to be pending as in a balance so uncertain as to which party will prove themselves victorious.

It has been our desire to see the North gain their point, if they were likely to act as we supposed they would, viz do away with the curse of their nation We did not wish to have them declare, at once, that all slaves were free, but to give the world to understand that they would do away with the system as soon as possible and practicable, and in a fair and equitable manner This it has been thought by people well able to judge, was not impossible since they could have remunerated all loyal persons for their slave property at an expense far less than the cost is likely to be of raising and maintaining even 300,000 men for one year This indefinite kind of position taken by the president and his Government has undoubtedly been the means of making many friends for the South in Canada, and also of weakening the sympathies of many who heretofore expressed themselves as friends of the Union We know several journals that have always been warm friends of the Federals that are lately moderating very much in their tone and are apparently dissatisfied with the course of the Government. This betokens a change."

American Visitors

This forcibly reminds us of the fact that this fratricidal struggle had been under way a long time before the slaves were actually emancipated. Is it possible that it might have been avoided if the plan of compensation suggested by the editor had been adopted? In the next issue, under the above heading he returns to the subject, and in language with no uncertain sound, roundly scores those undesirable guests

"We are just now well favored with a large access to our population in the persons of Americans, who have

skedaddled to avoid the draft. As a general rule we are among the first to welcome parties from the other side of the line. They are usually among the first benefactors of Canada, since their energetic business habits have a favorable effect upon our population and they are usually the first to conduct or encourage any branch of trade or industry. With the present party however we can show no friendship, they have deserted their country in her hour of greatest trial when the tendons of her vast frame are stretched to the utmost, and every moment threatens a final overthrow. They have basely withdrawn from their native home rather than obey the call to duty and should success attend her efforts, perhaps none would shout more lustily or more highly and the bravery of our heroes than these patriotic whiners. We believe that with the Botany Bay convict they might say,—

"True patriots, we, for be it understood,
We leave our country for our country's good."

"In whatever direction the sympathies of Canadians may lie, we believe they should spurn any approaches on the part of those who are willing while everything prospers, to profit out of their country and upon the first approach of danger disgracefully turn their backs with apparently no more feeling than they would go through an ordinary every-day transaction.

Church Dedication

The members of Trinity Church, Napanee, will be especially interested in the report of the dedication of the old stone church, which was torn down in 1905 to make room for the present handsome structure erected upon the site. This report appeared in the issue of September 10th, 1842.

"The dedicatory services connected with the opening of the new W. M. church in the Village of Napanee, took place on Sunday last, as announced by handbills and otherwise. This church which has just been completed, is a credit to the society and the place. It has been built at an expense, we understand, of $9,000 00 and it can be denominated a cheap building. The sermons were preached

by the Rev Dr Wood, President of the Conference, at 10.30 a.m. Rev John Black at 3 p.m. and the Rev Dr Nelles, Principal of Victoria College, at 7 p.m. The Reverend gentlemen fully sustained their former reputation, and everything passed off creditably The services of the choir especially elicited approbation, and Dr Wood, at the close, took occasion, in a very neat manner to bestow a handsome and we believe a well deserved compliment on the singers We understand that the large attendance produced as it should, a large collection, which as is generally the case, was a relief to the steward. There was a bazaar Monday and Tuesday and also a tea meeting on Tuesday evening, of the result we have not heard.

There will be preaching at the same hours next Sabbath by the following ministers Rev George Young morning and evening and the Rev W H. Poole of this place, in the afternoon. If the services are as interesting as on last Sabbath we can only recommend our friends to go, and if they go we would remind them that churches cost money

Emancipation

That the war in the South was getting upon the nerves of Canadians is evident from the fact that the news columns were filled with items from the different fronts, and the editor frequently summed up the situation as in the following editorial of September 10th

"The long wished and prayed for proclamation by President Lincoln seems likely to be not much longer delayed. The whole pressure of the Republican journals and the chief mouth-pieces of the party are being brought to bear to accomplish this end, as a final means of saving the great, but tottering, Union. No person doubts that such a proclamation will be issued and it is now generally thought that the sooner it appears the better Being steady and we believe consistant, opponents of slavery we have looked forward to some crisis in this war when it would become a military necessity to free the slaves and thus speedily erase that foul blot from the national American character We have steadily since the war began,

wished for success for the Federal party. We do this, not out of admiration for the principal parties, who are considered exponents of Northern views for in a majority of them, we are happy to take exception, nor are we actuated by any enthusiastic admiration of the manner in which matters have been conducted since the war began but we believe that in the great mass of the community at the North there exists a sincere desire to free their land from the great evil that has from its very origin cursed it. How different with the South, whose professed desire is to perpetuate this very system. They who have always ruled the national councils, as soon as they perceived that the intelligence of the North was awaking to the infamy of the system at once to perpetuate their horrible dealings in flesh and blood, resolved to cap the climax by destroying the very nation that had fostered and fed them.

In thus declaiming against the South, we would not be understood to acquit the North as guiltless many parties in that section have long, either openly as in an indirect manner encouraged the system of human bondage while a large class have so totally forgotten everything like a moral responsibility that they have scrupled for their country we cannot but think with partial pleasure the appellation of a "Nation without God."

Resuming the subject in his issue of October 1st, the Editor continues his comments

"It is a mighty step in the right direction and should enlist the sympathy of the entire civilized world. After being trodden under an iron-heeled despotism for two hundred years, the wronged African is to have his rights he is henceforth to be numbered among men instead of brutes, for the history of slavery would seem to assign to him a position among the irrational and irresponsible portion of creation. The civilized portion of the community cannot but applaud this bold humane view of the President, and it will awaken a sympathetic chord in their nature for that portion of the nation loyal to the old constitution. What will become of the slaves is asked on one hand. Were it in our province to answer we would say at once, that at present many are needed for the war and when that is

over all, and more than all are required to raise King Cotton on the Southern plantations. As free men, their labor will be to more purpose than when their lives were devoid of aim, and we indulge the hope, that as free men, they will restore the soil, which as slaves their labor tended to degeneracie.

Yates' Hotel

Abel Yates, well known to all of the old residents of Napanee, sought the patronage by the following advertisement

"Yates Hotel

"Corner of Dundas and East Streets, Napanee, C.W

Ministers of all denominations half fare.

Abel Yates,

Late of The Campbell House, Proprietor"

Separation of Lennox and Addington from Frontenac

In the issue of February 4th 1863, we see the spark that set fire to the ambitious desire of Lennox and Addington to sever connection with Frontenac and become a separate county Sidney Warner Reeve of Ernestown, was a candidate for the Wardenship of the then United Counties of Frontenac, Lennox and Addington but was defeated by a man of inferior ability from Frontenac The North American denounced in good round terms the selfishness of the representatives from Frontenac We are not at all surprised therefore to find the following in the next issue

"At a meeting held yesterday afternoon at the Town Hall, Napanee, of the Reeves of Lennox and Addington, it was carried that they petition the Governor-in-Council for a separation of these United Counties. The vote was unanimous. Fuller particulars next week."

Poland

The editor by no means limited his editorial observations to purely local affairs He views with equanimity the threatening war clouds in Europe and enlightens his readers by a well written article on March 18th, 1863

"It is very gratifying to hear every moment of our lives some new effort for human liberty and while our hearts bleed at the inevitable destruction of life, we nevertheless, realise that such things must be, and if freedom cannot be achieved in any way but by war then war must come. Poland has earned a classic name in our ears by the noble stand taken in defense of liberty under patriotic leaders against the united power of Russia, Prussia and Austria

"She has been for years ground under the iron heel of Russia, and we mistake the liberal aspirations of our age if she is longer crushed to the earth The tone of English statesmen is adverse to any interference, unless on behalf of the Poles, and France occupies the same position We only find the would-be autocrat of Prussia in opposition to an immense majority of the Popular Representatives, openly intriguing on behalf of his fraternal Russia.

"We have always admired the course of the present Emperor of Russia in pushing to a successful end his vast schemes for liberation and we looked for the display of generous self-denial on his part in allowing the Poles, whose very nature and temperament are so Anti Russian to exercise the right of self-government. It may be that he will yet see his error in thus contending against the prevailing notions of the day and the undoubtedly ascendant popular sympathy

"It must be remembered that Poland at one time was not the oppressed nationality she now is at one time Poland was the foremost defender of Christian ty in Eastern Europe against the inroads of the Turkish and Tartar Barbarians and a feeling of ordinary humanity should prompt us to wish them restored to the position they once held We do not believe in encouraging acts of hostility against existing rules for trivial reasons but we look upon this outbreak in Poland as a spontaneous and universal uprising of an oppressed people against laws adverse to their nature and against the rule of a people whose sympathies desires, education, and tendencies are almost the antipodes of their own Their request was reasonable. It was not granted, and they have availed themselves of

arms to sanction their claim so far they maintain the ascendant. May they succeed."

The Examination at the Academy

In the issue of April 8th is an extended report of the examination at the Newburgh Academy conducted orally in the old fashioned style. The examination extended over three days, and instead of being in private as at present, all the ratepayers were invited to come and witness the proceedings.

"The system pursued at the examination was to bring the scholars of all the rooms into one room and thereby allow the spectators to hear the recitations of every class this plan entails considerable delay and we can scarcely believe that the advantage it gives visitors counteracts the long time it takes.

"The classes in Geometry Trigonometry French and Algebra acquitted themselves very creditably in their respective branches. The scholars of the common school department, also, by their examinations, paid a high compliment to their teachers. There is one fault, however, which it is impossible to remedy when dealing with a number of small children that is the confusion attendant on the presence, in one room, of 200 or 300 people, which, added to the low tone of small scholars, makes the otherwise interesting examinations exceedingly unsatisfactory."

The late John D Ham was chairman of the School Board, and among the prize winners we note the following: 1st in Latin, James H Madden now Judge of the County Court 1st in Arithmetic Matthew Ryan now deceased, late Warden of the County and 2nd in Reading, W P Derochie, Local Registrar of the Supreme Court.

Separation of the Counties

The meeting of the Reeves held in Napanee on February 10th had remedy borne fruit. All the preliminaries to the introduction of a bill providing for the separation of the counties had been completed. The arguments in favor of separation were very neatly summed up in a leading article of April 16th, from which we quote a part only:

"The population of the three counties and the city was, according to the last census, 66 092, and is probably now not less than 75,000, of which about 30 000 are in Lennox and Addington, a fully sufficient number for independent municipal support. We can easily understand the opposition which is given to the separation project by the members of the County Council from Frontenac, who derive as much benefit from their connection as a monetary line with our county. While there is ample population to justify separation, there are also many other reasons which should impel us to take the step. When the population was thin, and the people poor there was less necessity for them to leave their homes often for the county capital and consequently less inconvenience experienced by it being at a distance but now with new townships constantly opening in the rear and increasing demand for some centre or mart in our immediate vicinity where the ordinary business of the county can be transacted without the disagreeable necessity of a tedious jaunt to Kingston, we should not be longer deprived of our rights. It has long been an established rule that the senior county allows without protest, the division when the wishes of the junior are known to be inclined in that direction, and after the decisive vote at Napanee last February we can interpret the course pursued at Kingston by Mr Flanigan and others, as nothing but a selfish clinging to the old regime against all considerations of general interest.

"In the discussions which will take place upon the County Town the question will be placed fairly upon its merits and that the people of the different townships will weigh well the consequences of their vote, they should consult their own and the general convenience in the despatch of the County business, and we believe that the inconveniences they have suffered heretofore will teach them a lesson in bringing it as near their homes as they can. Newburgh will raise no false issues, all they want is a fair and just expression of public opinion on this point and they consider their cause safe. We do not blame parties in Napanee working all they can for their village, as we assuredly shall for ours, but if the people of the larger

County Addington remain but true to their interests we have no fear of the result When the Bill appears we will keep our readers posted on this important subject.

"We hope that the general feeling in favor of a popular vote will prevent the Reeves, at their meeting on Saturday next, from taking the settlement of this matter whose they have no right to do, out of the hands of its rightful arbiters, the people."

A new question, however had arisen—that of the County Town, and The North American left no doubt where it stood upon that question There were four claimants in the field, Napanee, Newburgh, Bath and Tamworth. It was a foregone conclusion that neither Bath nor Tamworth could secure the prize, but both remained in the field until a vote was taken at a meeting of the Reeves in Napanee on April 11th when Napanee secured a majority of the votes Newburgh was not satisfied with this verdict and contended that so important a question as the selection of a County Town should be determined by a vote of the ratepayers. Douglas Hooper was the representative of the County in the Legislative Assembly and being a Camden man he naturally favored Newburgh's claims. Richard Cartwright, afterwards Sir Richard was the largest property owner in Napanee, and he used all of his influence for Napanee. As he was a prospective candidate at the next election, it will be readily seen that the County Town problem was likely to make itself felt at that election. Canada then embraced only two provinces, Upper and Lower Canada, and the Legislative Assembly met at Quebec. A Coalition Government had been having a hard time of it and went down under a vote of want of confidence moved by John A Macdonald the member for Kingston afterwards Sir John The editor of The North American leaves no doubt as to his political leanings in the following editorial

The Want of Confidence Vote

The truce given by the opposition is over and war is really in vogue in the Legislature. On Friday last the Hon John A. Macdonald moved a direct vote of want of

confidence in the administration, which of course brings matters to a direct issue. We have not learned the fate of the measure, but soon will, the probabilities are that it will be lost by a narrow majority but on the other hand it may possibly carry

'In making his speech, the member for Kingston indulged in the usual amount of bombast and humbug, which characterizes his efforts. He lost sight of his own chequered political life his own directly opposite votes on the Representation Question his change of opinion on the Clergy Reserve Secularization and accused the present holders of the Treasury benches with inconsistency Such a charge coming from such a source, must be considered, by all impartial hearers as a mere claptrap cry only made for the sake of regaining the coveted places on the other side of the House.

The County Town Again

Mr Douglas Hooper the member for Lennox and Addington, was a Conservative The Editor of The North American was a Reformer but as Mr Cartwright was at that time a Conservative also, there was no reason open to the Reform editor but to support the man in favor of Newburgh as the County Town, and this he proceeds to do as appears from the following editorial

We have much pleasure in notifying our readers that Mr Hooper last week, gave notice of a Bill to allow the ratepayers of Lennox and Addington to choose their own County Town. This course, on the part of the County member is highly commendable as it refers the whole matter to the rightful arbiters, the people although it may suit our friends in Napanee, who fondly but illusively imagined the whole matter settled by the Report.

However much local feeling may be brought to bear against Mr Hooper in the course he has taken we firmly believe that he will be sustained by the general good sense of the County and that, on the whole he will gain in popular estimation by so just a course

"We have to praise the well-timed remarks of our contemporary The Standard, last week in reference to the

claims of Napanee. No one pretends that Napanee has not an advantage over us in being possessed of water and railway communications but that does not argue that the people of the County will be convenienced more by going to Napanee than Newburgh to do County business, and it will be well for our people to understand the wire pulling that will be resorted to by less conscientious advocates of Napanee than our friends of The Standard."

The American War

The election of 1863 was one of the most bitter in the history of our country yet the American war was the all-absorbing topic of conversation and in the minds of some had a direct bearing upon the campaign. There were grave fears that England might be involved. The press of all shades of politics published columns of news and followed the movements of the opposing forces with harrowing tales of slaughter and suffering. Time and again the editor expresses his abhorrence of the terrible conflicts. The following is from the issue of May 6th

"The devastating war still continues with as little prospect as ever of termination. Its effect on the trade of the whole world is now keenly felt and an alteration in public opinion against its continuance that a move of some kind towards a finality will have to be taken by one or another of the contending parties or by some foreign power. Gen Hooker has commenced an On to Richmond march with what success remains to be seen. It may be that the acknowledged exhaustion of the South will enable him to make an easy capture of that now famous city and it is also possible that he will meet the disastrous fate of McDowell, McClellan and Burnside.

"We can never have any sympathy with the Confederate States in the move they have made. They have defended themselves gallantly it is true, but the rotten principle of slavery upon which their Government is founded is a bar no true British subject can cross. We heartily wish their defeat, but if that is not soon accomplished, no considerations should further prolong the war. It has caused an amount of suffering scarcely ever before

equalled, it has deranged the commerce, not only of our own land but of the entire civilized world, and in the name of humanity should soon be ended.

The Election

The candidates were soon in the field for the election and ranged themselves under three banners. The Reformers, The Liberal Conservatives, and the old die-hard Conservatives under the leadership of Galt, Cartier and John A. Macdonald. The latter party was given the rather unsavory title of The Corruptionists. Cartwright and Hooper the candidates for Lennox and Addington both claimed to be Liberal Conservatives. This was Mr Cartwright's first entry into political life and his youth and inexperience were urged as reasons for not supporting his candidature. In reading their respective addresses to the electors there appears to be little to choose between them. Both were for retrenchment and economy as indeed all candidates profess to be and in all probability will so continue to the end of time, or so long as legislators are elected by popular vote. Both candidates were for Representation by Population and claimed that Upper Canada did not have its fair proportion of members in the Legislature. No candidate in Upper Canada could hope to be elected without this a plank in his platform. Both were for placing the militia on a sounder footing, and Mr Cartwright went so far as to say "causes over which we can exercise no control may at any instant involve us in a war of the most desperate character."

That he was shaping his canvass so that he might consistently follow either of the old time parties in the house might reasonably be inferred from the following extract from his address

"I believe the country to be in such peril that it becomes all good citizens, Conservative or Reformer to lay aside party disputes and stand together firmly at least till this danger be overpast. And I may urge this the more reasonably because I believe I am justified in saying that almost all the great questions which formerly divided those parties have been amicably adjusted and, that if at this juncture

any important differences can be said to exist between them : lies chiefly in this,—that the Reform party perceive perhaps the most clearly the vital importance of retrenching and adjusting our finances while the Conservatives, on the other hand, are most alive to the quite as urgent necessity of preparing for the war storm which any hour may discharge itself on our head."

The Election Candidates

The views of the respective candidates were well known upon the question of the County Town but both took good care not to make any reference to it in their addresses to the electors. The personal merits, however were not overlooked. Mr Cartwright represented himself as a very large property owner with great financial interests at stake in the riding and prided himself in being born in the riding and descended from U. E. L. parents, thinking perhaps thereby to score a slight advantage over his opponent, who was born in Scotland and came to Canada when a mere child and was brought up in Lower Canada. Mr Hooper retorted that his property holdings were not so large as those of Mr Cartwright, yet what he had he had earned by hard labor and that his knowledge of the wants and necessities of a farming community was better than that of the other candidate, who had never experienced the hardships necessary to obtain a livelihood by manual labor. After the campaign was well under way, the Reformers held a rather stormy meeting at Newburgh with the result that they concluded that it was too late to put a candidate in the field. This seemed quite satisfactory to The North American, whose editor would have been placed in an awkward position if his political party had seen fit to nominate a candidate. He was quite content in the following editorial

"We are glad that this conclusion was arrived at, for although we would very much like to see this county represented by a good moderate Reformer yet in the present juncture, as we stated last week, we believe it very imprudent for a third man to enter the field, for our part, being satisfied with Mr Hooper's past course, and also that

if re-elected he will be as consistent, we shall do all we can, in a lawful manner to ensure his election."

"The Supplementary Estimates"

The editor essayed at times to be facetious. We leave the reader to form his own opinion of his success along this line.

"By special favor we have received the following list of supplementary estimates to be proposed to the House shortly:

Salary of a compositor from the "Grumbler" office, to teach the Hon. Mr Cameron, the new printer his new business	$ 1000 00
Printer's devil to assist	500 00
To provide a new set of brains for Mr Cauchon	1 00
Repairs to Mr Ryerson's political morality	20 30
To purchase some of Mr Dunkin's self-conceit for Mr Dorion	10 00
For a bag to shake up J. A. Macdonald and George Brown together with a view of seeing which will be the first to emerge	50
To print 500 copies of Mr Wright's orations for general circulation say	2 00
To procure a foreign mission or something to get rid of Mr Carter	99 99
For a copy of Joe Miller for Mr Rymal	00
To purchase bacon, eggs and other palatable means of sustenance for the pupils of the U. C. College	500 00
To pay Dr Ryerson's expenses to Nova Zembla	10 00
For a dancing master to instruct Messrs. Benjamin and Baxter in the sailor's hornpipe	10 00
To furnish Godley the Court Journalist, with a few grains of common sense	10
To furnish paper pellets for members to throw at each other when in committee of the whole	10000 00
For an interpreter to explain Isaac Buchanan's speech	1 00

For obtaining a facsimile of Isaac Buchanan's laugh to send to the next World's Fair as one of Canada's greatest curiosities 100 00

The Election

To those of us who have had opportunities of witnessing the entire absence of even friendly relations between Sir John A. Macdonald and Sir Richard Cartwright, it is inconceivable that at one time these two men were so intimately associated in politics that the latter found it necessary to deny the charge brought against him that he was dominated by John A. It is a fact, however, that they were very intimate both socially and politically and on nomination day Mr. Cartwright in referring to a current report, declared that he was not under the thumb of John A. Macdonald. The election took place on the 17th and 18th of June, and Cartwright was returned by a majority of 265. The Reformers under the leadership of John Sandfield Macdonald in Upper Canada and A. A. Dorion in Lower Canada, carried the country by a fair majority. In Lennox the question of the County Town had a marked effect, particularly in Napanee, North Fredericksburgh, Newburgh and Camden, as will be seen from the following returns:

	Cartwright	Hooper
Napanee	382	52
North Fredericksburgh	190	55
Newburgh	12	131
Camden	354	366

Throughout the rest of the county the Conservatives appear to have divided their votes, while the majority of the Reformers voted for Cartwright, probably because he was a young man of means with no political name to answer for, while Hooper had a Conservative record in the House with slim chances of ever making a Reformer out of him. The North American declared itself disappointed in the result, but upon the whole took the defeat rather gracefully and concluded its leading editorial upon the election as follows:

"We are yet to be convinced that the Reformers will not regret the vote they have this time given, and that when it is too late to remedy it as it is, Mr Cartwright is now number elect for this county and as such must act as our representative. We wait the development of his course with anxiety only hoping, but we confess against hope, that his course on all questions will be as liberal as his ardent admirers anticipate. If he gives a support to the present Government in opposition to his friend, John A., he will be a political curiosity such as is not often found in the ranks to which he belongs, more especially in the celebrated 'Liberal' city of Kingston.

The New Member

The new parliament met on August 13th, and upon the first vote it was found that the government had a majority of only eight or ten. One of the first acts of the Ministry was to pass an order-in-council constituting Napanee the County Town of the new County of Lennox and Addington, as Mr Hooper during the last session of the previous parliament had secured the passage of a bill separating the counties, and the only necessary step remaining to enable the new county to proceed to set its house in order was the naming of the County Town. For this Mr Cartwright got the blame and was charged with a violation of his pre-election pledge that he would not favor the naming of the County Town by the government if a majority of the ratepayers petitioned for having it determined by a popular vote. No such petition had been presented, but The North American claimed that one was being circulated to the knowledge of the member and that his action was premature and calculated to circumvent the will of the electors. As a matter of fact a petition had been forwarded to the Government, asking for delay and also a counter petition praying that the proclamation formally at once putting the act of separation into force and naming the County Town, and while Mr Cartwright had stated upon the hustings that he would not oppose having a vote taken upon the question there is no evidence that he was responsible for the issuing of the proclamation. There is every reason to

believe that Stevenson, afterwards the Honourable John Stevenson, speaker of the first parliament of the Province of Ontario, and who was named in the proclamation as the first Warden, was the person responsible for securing the passing of the Order-in-Council that put an end to the controversy that had already lasted too long. Moreover, we have no reason to believe that Mr Cartwright was persona grata with the government as he voted steadily against it, for which The North American called him to task.

"What say Reformers now we wonder? Their pet candidate and liberal minded representative has scarcely come up to the political mark they set for him. Mr Cartwright, many of them said, while the election was going on was pledged to them even personally to give a generous support to the present government and to judge them entirely by their measures. We ourselves heard him say that he would not vote want of confidence in them at the opening of the session, but would give them a fair trial. It may be well asked how has he fulfilled those pledges? He gave his vote for Mr Wallbridge, and since then has steadily voted against the government and on the first opportunity declaring by his vote for his speeches say nothing that he had no confidence in the administration."

John A. Macdonald

A week after Mr Cartwright had been declared elected the wrath of the editor appears to have subsided so far as the local election was concerned. He was a Reformer at heart, although for local reasons he did all he could to secure the return of Mr Hooper. The Reformers claimed seventy-three seats in the House and accorded to the opposition fifty-one, and the independents six. In his pre-election notices he had the three classes, Reformers, Corruptionists and Liberal-Conservatives, but in summing up the returns after the election, he put John A. back in the Conservative fold and although he had backed a Conservative himself with all the force he could command he could not resist quoting with approval the following from The Globe

"Will Mr John A Macdonald please come to the rescue and tell the poor disconsolates who still cling to his coattails, what he will do? He has the reputation of being an uncommonly ingenious man, and, as one of his enthusiastic supporters once described him, he is a cat with nine lives It is thus he let which supports his admirers now amid all their affliction, they cling to it as drowning men to straws They believe that he has yet some dodge in reserve, some double-shuffle trick some ready pre-arranged distribution of the cards In fact, not a few rather incline to think that, for some reason or other,—to a comprehension of which they do not pretend,—he likes the present look of affairs. But unless he makes haste, they will lose all confidence and pitch him overboard We, who are perfectly impartial, can afford to wait but they cannot. As it appears to us, for all his boasted generalship, he has brought his party to about as low an ebb as the most bungling political leader could possibly do Mr Cartier can yet bring up a compact phalanx. Not so large as it once was, yet one of which he may boast However unworthy he has at least manoeuvred so as to gain the confidence of his quondam foes. John Alexander has manoeuvred and lost His chief captains have been cut off Sergeant John Hillyard Cameron, it is true, remains and may give some strength but with that exception the trains are gone. No longer can he with all his effrontery pretend that he is able to meet his Lower Canadian allies upon equal terms. We do not care to be thought curious, but we would like to know what excuse he has to offer to Monsieur Cartier for the results which have followed that once much bepraised, but now sadly be-cursed non-confidence motion of his It will require a tremendous display of trickery on his part, once more to redeem his character

Neither The Globe nor the editor of The North American proved to be very good prophets, for within twelve months both papers had a demonstration that all of the nine lives of John A were not yet exhausted, and were called upon to chronicle the fact that he had not been pitched overboard, but was received into a new Coalition

Government side by side with the cherished political idols of The Globe.

One would hardly recognize Sir Richard Cartwright as the same individual as is referred in the following editorial note of September 2nd

"Mr Cartwright has found his natural channel, feeding Conservatism, and while this country sends him to Parliament he will be found in the same place. His speech on the defences of the Province, as quoted in the Morning Chronicle is a rehash of his speeches about the county where he portrayed the danger of an aggressive war by the Americans, and the necessity of immediate and full preparation for it."

The House had not been in session three weeks before trouble arose in the government ranks in readjusting the portfolios and the majority was reduced to two. The North American sounded the note of warning, and asked "Is not some reconstruction possible?"

The Provisional Council of the County of Lennox and Addington

The provisional council was not long in assuming the duties of their new offices. The following is from the issue of September 16th

"The first meeting of the Provisional Council was held on Thursday last as directed by the Governor's Proclamation All the Reeves and Deputies were present, Mr Stevenson occupying the chair Mr Warner moved the appointment of Mr Stevenson as Provisional Warden and it was carried without opposition. Wm V Detlor Esq. was appointed County Clerk, and Edmund Hooper Esq County Treasurer An appropriation of $20 000 was voted for County Buildings, and the Council meets again in October to select a site for the Court House and Jail. An Executive Committee was appointed consisting of Messrs. Stevenson, Warner Ham, Lapum Perry Symmith and J J Watson."

Review of 1903

We find very little more worthy of reproduction until

the first number of 1864. Among his other reviews, the editor sums up the position in Europe as follows:

"The year that has passed has been a momentous one in the world's history, not so much perhaps for the great revolutions it has effected as for the important moves, political and otherwise, originating with it, which are soon destined to have a lasting and important bearing on the future of our history. In the great political arena from which, as a colony, we are almost entirely excluded we find a general restlessness, which is a sure forerunner of some important change. Russia, whose growth of late has been amazing, has been and still is in serious trouble with her Polish subjects, and which from the emancipation edict and other liberal proclivities, we were led to expect a humane and forbearing course from her, we must yet admit that the cruel Scythian spirit is still predominant, and the liberal minds of the world are earnestly wishing that these revolutionists may yet succeed in effecting a dismemberment of the Empire.

"The one man in Europe towards whom all seem to cast their eyes when trouble is brewing, Napoleon, is now apparently in as much of a quandary as any who direct their steps after his leadership. He is generally suspected and although possessed of immense power he is nevertheless hampered with conflicting interests and circumstances, which prevent him in some manner from pursuing all the nefarious schemes he may propose.

"When we cross the ocean we reach a struggle which now almost engrosses the attention of the world, the American Civil War. The same noble and determined course of the North to put down slavery and the same courageous but misdirected efforts of the South to maintain it, continue. The struggle has scarcely abated, but is confined to a more limited ground than formerly. Gradually wrong is yielding to right, and although the death struggle may be hard, yet to death this monstrous evil is doomed, and sooner or later dissolution must inevitably take place."

War in Europe

In the issue of January 30th 1864 there appeared the following forecast, which eventually proved all too true

"The state of affairs in Europe as seen by the latest intelligence received, bears every indication of war Germany having already made advances towards the Danes but as yet no collision or struggle has taken place. nevertheless the appearances of an amicable arrangement and settlement of the existing difficulties other than by the shedding of blood, seems to be entirely beyond the hopes of any The Danish people are apparently much in favor of war and the sympathy they expect and receive from England coupled with the support they would undoubtedly get from their brother of Sweden and Norway do much towards nerving them to a bold resistance of any interment upon their rights as a nation. The grasping avaricious character of the French Emperor is here again very apparent his long pent up desire of extending his empire to the shores of the Rhine is now looking out and becoming more visible as he imagines his chances of success better"

The Ministry Will It Live ?

Europe was threatened with a devastating war involving several countries the United States was engaged in a bloody fratricidal struggle Mexico had been subjugated by France and a deputation was tendering the crown of the new empire on this continent to Archduke Maximilian of Austria We in Canada were not free from trouble. The tenure of the new government was becoming more precarious day by day and no easy solution of the difficulty seemed to be forthcoming. In the issue of February 13th the editor laments the unsettled condition of affairs

"This is now an everyday question, and anxious knots of amateur politicians are daily gathered about every street corner giving the question a coloring according to their individual feelings or prejudice. The present Reform Government, it is well known, have worked their way under circumstances of extreme difficulty and the political horizon is as much clouded now as ever They last session met

Parliament after a General Election with only a majority of 2 or 3 votes, and by an unexampled attendance of members, carried through the business and retained office.

Perhaps none have been better pleased than ourselves with many acts of the present administration and on numerous occasions we have unhesitatingly declared our confidence in its integrity and honesty. It has done much towards reducing the expense of Government and placing us on a good financial footing but we believe there are few who desire to see the scenes of last session enacted over again. Such political canvassing and cooking such tremendous exertions of the OUTS to get IN and the INS to stay IN were never before seen, and during such seasons as this the business of the country must be neglected. Men who should devote their undivided attention to the best interests of their constituents waste valuable time in endeavours to influence the Goddess of Fortune to favor the one or the other political party with which they are identified. Such has been almost without interruption the position of affairs since the accession to power of the present administration, and is now becoming a grave question whether it should last longer."

The New County Council

"Now that the Municipal elections are over we suppose that there will be no delay in erecting the buildings necessary for county purposes so that we may soon become a totally distinct county without any reference at all to the senior county of Frontenac. It is not to be denied that the people of Newburgh felt much chagrined and disappointed at losing the County Town, without any appeal to a popular vote, but that question is gone and no amount of agitation would now be likely to have the least effect on the matter and since one question is settled by what means it is not our province to herald. It now becomes the duty of every man to aim to burden the county as little as possible with a county debt, in this the beginning of our career. In the building of the Court House in Kingston a vast amount of money was lavished and an expenditure indulged in that should be a timely warning to our local legislators. In a

final settlement with Frontenac, which must soon take place, we will experience the dire effects of this extravagance for it will be all but impossible to get anything like an adequate value for the miserable pile of bricks owned by the counties. If the matter is managed judiciously we may by the gift of the county property begin life nearly clear from encumbrance, save what is expended in our own affairs.

"The bitter feeling in Frontenac against the separation will be apt to create a great difficulty in the way of an amicable settlement of the county business, as we may be sure they will carefully guard anything that will directly or indirectly militate against their local interests. If however anything imprudent is done, on our own ground we will have our own representatives to blame, and with the store of past experience to teach them any error on their part will be almost inexcusable. The county needs good substantial buildings and they are not able to pay too high a price for them, and we believe there is hardly a member of the county council who will not faithfully work for the accomplishment of so desirable an end."

From the issue of February 17th, we learn that the provisional council for Lennox and Addington had met and transacted a good deal of important business including the adoption of plans for a new court House and gaol and the advertising for tenders for their erection. The editor seemed to have the faculty of correctly sizing up the situation in foreign countries. In one editorial he laments the threatening war cloud in Europe. Germany had delivered a bullying ultimatum to Denmark demanding the evacuation of Schleswig. Denmark relying upon the probability of England intervening and the sympathy of France, Sweden, Italy and Russia, was not disposed to submit. Prussia and Austria, on the other hand, backed up Germany. Archduke Maximilian could not refuse the tempting offer of the crown of the new Empire of Mexico, and The North American with a true prophetic genius, warns him of his probable fate in the following brief editorial:

"Maximilian has finally accepted the Crown of Mexico

and will soon sail for his new dominions. Whether Napoleon's policy of placing a Prince on a Mexican throne will be as satisfactory as he hoped is yet to be seen. Mexico is one of the most thoroughly unreliable of all nationalities, and it will be little short of a miracle if the new Emperor makes any better headway than the different presidents have in the last twelve or thirteen years."

As The North American did not continue publication to chronicle the accuracy of its prediction we might here mention that the ill-advised Archduke did not prove to be an exception to the rule that the average reign of the Mexican rulers at that time was about two years, and the reign generally terminated in banishment or execution. Maximilian was hurled from the throne by the Republican forces and shot at Queretaro on June 19th 1867.

From the latter part of February 1864, there was no lack of material to engage the editor's pen and he took full advantage of it all and besides publishing copious reports of the events of the day he gave his readers the benefit of his views upon the various topics. War had broken out in Europe and Parliament was again in session.

War

"Our readers will observe by the telegraphic reports in another column, to which we have devoted a large space, that war has already commenced in Europe, but as yet we have no very definite news as to the result, the Germans evidently keeping back the news, although while the Danes are single handed there can be but little doubt of the finale. England is just now in a equivocal position much to the chagrin of Denmark, but we scarcely think she will maintain this attitude when the integrity of Denmark is threatened. However we cannot even imagine any peacable termination to the present complications."

How like the comments of the press when the news of the outbreak of the Great War first reached us!

Parliament

"The Provincial Parliament opened on Friday last in

Quebec. The speech from the throne, which we give in another place, refers to many important subjects, which, if the government are not defeated will probably be adjusted in some manner before the House is prorogued. There are rumours of changes of the Administration by admitting Mr Bell of Russell as Provincial Secretary Mr Ferguson Blair becoming Solicitor General West.

"The Globe is not at all pleased at this prospect and seems to be confident that it will not succeed with the Upper Canada supporters of the Administration As usual at the opening of parliament, Quebec is full of all sorts of rumors with regard to politics, and each party is confident of supremacy Of course no one knows with certainty what will be the end, but we do not wish to see the scenes of last session repeated. We have not heard yet whether the opposition will move amendments to the address or not, but there is a rumor that they will test the Government on their financial policy and not on the address. If they are guilty of so much propriety as this it will be the first offence of the kind"

Our County Buildings

"It is with much satisfaction that we observe the near prospect of our county buildings being placed under contract. The plans as amended and adopted seem to meet with general approval and we trust that nothing may occur to mar a satisfactory arrangement as regards the contracts and the ultimate completion of the whole within the required time"

In the issue of March 9th, appears a full report of a two days session of the Provisional County Council, at which the various tenders for building the Court House and Gaol were considered They varied from $31500.00 to $42089.00 The contract was awarded to John Forin of Belleville, for $33148.00

To Advertisers

We were somewhat surprised to find that the issue of May 12th was published in Picton instead of Newburgh and

in a leading editorial, the writer explains his appearance in Picton but assigns no reason for quitting Newburgh.

"As for our appearance, we would only say that for a long time two public papers have been supported in Picton other business has increased at least four-fold, and we give the people of the county sufficient credit for public spirit, to trust them for a generous patronage, if the object is really deserving. We shall at all times earnestly strive to maintain a consistent course without respect to parties or personal affinities on all occasions to denounce wrong and uphold right, and while we take this course, fearlessly though we are perfectly aware that we will make enemies, we are convinced that we will meet the approval of all right thinking people, whose minds are biased rather towards right than interest."

Evidently Newburgh did not appreciate the efforts of the McMullen Bros. to maintain a local press in the village, and if they found that their venture there was not a paying one, it was quite natural that they should try their fortune in Picton, which was their native town.

The paper retained the same advertisements that appeared in it when published in Newburgh probably because the period over which the advertising contracts were to run had not yet expired but there were no further news items in its columns touching upon local affairs in Lennox and Addington. It is quite refreshing however to read the terse and sensible comments of the editor upon the general news of the day, and particularly the political situation in Canada. They give us a fair glimpse at history in the making during a most important crisis in the political development of our country. He sums up the advance of General Grant as follows

The American War

"The victorious army of the Potomac still reports success. Gen. Grant is clearing away obstacles on the way to Richmond which he is rapidly nearing. Several encounters have taken place in the last few days, and the slaughter has been terrible, the Federals admitting 15,000

wounded. On the South Gen. Butler has defeated Beauregard, and is within ten miles of Richmond, the losses on both sides are heavy but the advantage is with the North, every time. On the whole the tide of fortune seems turned against J. Davis & Co., and the Southern Bubble, so manfully fought for, must soon collapse."

General Grant

In a subsequent issue the reader's attention is directed to the following picture of the leader of the Northern army:

"A clergyman writes from the army of the Potomac of an interview with Lieutenant General Grant, whom he met sitting in a once elegant mansion, with a New York paper in his hand, quietly enjoying his cigar:—'Like everyone else who meets him, we were charmed with his quiet, modest simplicity and manly bearing. He is a low voiced, diffident man with fair skin and brown hair-looks younger even than Fremont and talks slowly like one used to keeping his own secrets. He says he never had a headache. God grant he may have no headache during the coming eventful month. When I rallied him pleasantly about the traditional cigar, which he used as Napoleon did the snuff-box, he smilingly replied, 'When the war is over I am going to give it up'. He has the most undoubted confidence in the troops. In every tent we hear the same spontaneous testimony'."

In the interval between the dates of the last number published in Nottingham, March 10th, and the first number published in Picton, May 12th, the government of John Sandfield Macdonald, unable any longer to command a majority of votes in the House, resigned on the 21st of March. The Governor, Lord Monck, was at his wits' end. It seemed a difficult task to form any government that could long remain in office. The tension between the two provinces was increasing every day. He tendered the honor of forming a ministry to two different ex-ministers but each in turn failed to select a cabinet. He then turned to the much abused "Corruptionists" Sir Etienne Taché and John A. Macdonald, who for the second time assumed the reins. The North American in its first Picton issue,

gives its readers an indication of its views upon the combination

Parliamentary

"The acceptance of office by a new Government, the re-election of its members and their meeting Parliament has been a political topic for the last few weeks, and as a motion of want of confidence is soon to be moved we will probably be fully satiated with political squabbling this summer as we were last. What the prospects of the stability of the ministry are, we do not know but it must be a matter of regret that political revolutions should be so frequent in Canada. As regards the present House, it is perfectly plain that conducting a Government with it, is a delicate piece of business, and nearly every political prophet looks forward to a general election as imminent

"How the present administration would stand in the event of an appeal to the country is a matter of great doubt there are several of its members not at all popular in Upper Canada, and the vote of her constituencies in the aggregate would be averse to it on the other hand, in the Lower Provinces, the opposite would be the case, but which side would get the largest sectional majority is always a matter of uncertainty For our part, we believe that no strong Government can be formed till some understanding is arrived at, whereby sectional issues will be, to a certain extent, abandoned, and the violent personal differences now existing amicably settled."

Although the editor's sanctum had been shifted, and his paper no longer touched upon matters of local interest in Lennox and Addington yet we cannot forbear reproducing a few more editorials touching upon the political crisis at Quebec. These articles give the history of that crisis an interesting personal touch, and the able manner in which the editor handled the public questions of the day might well serve as a guide to many present day editors of our Provincial newspapers.

The Tache-Macdonald Government was having a tempestuous time with their ship of state. They would no sooner weather one storm than they would encounter

another. We are familiar with the facts of those pre-confederation days as we read them in our histories, but in these editorials written at a time when the future was in doubt and men were gathering in groups on the street corners and wondering what would happen next, we get some idea of the nervous strain that the statesmen of that time were undergoing. Here we have an editor in a small country town who feels the responsibility of his position. He has his political favorites but realizes that the time has come when there must be a change. The affairs of the union between Upper and Lower Canada had not been running smoothly for years. Nearly everyone was convinced that one government could not legislate in all matters for both provinces, yet owing to their geographical position and mutual commercial interests, they could not very well be wholly separated. Some sort of union was necessary. What was it to be? The bad blood aroused by the frequent dissolutions did not make the task of solving the problem an easy one. We can read between the lines of the following editorials that apprehension that all was not well. The question that seemed to loom up large on the political horizon was, "what next?" To add to the difficulty of the situation, the finances of the country were in bad shape with no immediate prospect of improvement. There were four view-points of the crisis, none of which could be disregarded;—the racial, religious, economic and political. Well might the editor of a small country newspaper quake before them. The more we read such editorials as are here reproduced, the more respect will we have for the Fathers of Confederation who sank their political differences, grappled with the question and laid a firm foundation for our Dominion which has awakened the admiration and envy of the statesmen of the world when confronted with similar complications.

Fall of the Ministry

"The Taché-Macdonald Government were defeated on Tuesday night last by a majority of 2, the votes standing 60 to 58. We would give the yeas and nays, only that in the report furnished by the Globe we find, on counting, that there are but 52 names given among the nays. The

question was on an amendment to go into a Committee of Supply moved by Mr A A Dorion to condemn the $100,000 transaction with the City of Montreal and the Grand Trunk Railway Messrs Rankin and Dunkin voted yea on the amendment. The motion was accepted as one of Want of Confidence, and it is likely that a dissolution will take place, though we have not yet heard."

A Coalition

"Last week we made the announcement that the Taché-Macdonald Government were defeated, and gave as our opinion, in accordance with the generally conceived impression that dissolution of the house would take place. The events of the past week however have completely revolutionized the political horizon and led many to even doubt the evidence of their own senses.

"Shortly after the defeat of the administration Mr J A. Macdonald and Mr Galt called on Mr George Brown, who has so long and strenuously opposed them. Mr Brown promptly responded to the call and a basis for the settlement of our sectional and constitutional difficulties was at once broached and discussed.

"Announcements are being made from day to day by the Government and Mr Brown, as to the success and progress of affairs and it is likely that a final settlement was made yesterday Wednesday afternoon.

"To say that the announcement by Mr Macdonald, of the fact that the negotiations were going on with Mr Brown took the House and country by surprise, would be a weak form of expression the matter completely astounded everybody as the universal opinion was, that the disputes of former years had made an impassable breach between Mr Brown and the members of the old Coalition Government.

"After more mature reflection, however the general opinion seems to be that the step was wise and the prospect of a speedy and permanent settlement of our difficulties by a federal union, as is proposed is gratefully hailed as a relief from the continual agitation and disputing of the last seven or eight years.

"Thus far, it is admitted on all hands, the proceedings have been conducted with the utmost candor and fairness, and the disinterested conduct of the members of the Government, as well as Mr. Brown, is highly creditable to their loyal devotion to the true interests of the country.

"In agreeing upon a federal union as a basis of the settlement of our constitutional difficulties, we believe that the only feasible one has been selected; not that it will be the most advantageous to Upper Canada, but as more fair on the whole, than any other.

"It would be premature to give the proposed policy in anything like detail, as it has not yet been officially promulgated; but we would merely remark that each province will have a separate Legislature for local matters and then a General Legislative body, as well as a Government for the management of affairs pertaining to both provinces, and in the lower branch of the general body the representation will be based on population.

"This is an outline of the scheme as proposed, and so far it meets with a hearty approval, although there are some mal-contents.

"We believe it is the plain duty of every good citizen to at least give the new arrangement a fair and impartial trial, watch closely their administrative acts, as well as their legislative movements, and if they honestly and fairly endeavour to remedy the existing evils and smooth the ill-feeling between the two sections, give them an open and hearty support; and on the other hand, if their course is one of selfish aggrandizement, and their talk of devotion and self-sacrifice merely a sham, we would be among the first to put forth our little exertions to doom them as public men. But the risk, under the circumstances, would be too great for anything but an open and guileless proceeding for the characters of everyone concerned would be blasted forever were the least semblance of double-dealing to be discovered.

"They have undertaken a vast responsibility, and while they set themselves to the performance of the task no factious obstacles should be thrown in the way. Let them be closely watched and rigorously judged, not by the past

history of any one of them, but exclusively on their merits.

Coalitions

"Now that the surprise of the Canadian people has somewhat subsided, after the remarkable political revolution of the last two weeks, it may be well for everyone to calmly ask himself the question "What may be expected from such a fusion?" For our part, when the news of a probable coalition between Messrs. Brown, Galt, Cartier and John A. Macdonald arrived, we were perfectly incredulous and even when it became beyond the possibility of a doubt, we could scarcely credit our eye-sight. So determined and violent has been the conduct of these men towards each other for years past that an understanding between them seemed almost impossible.

"But now that it has been fully, clearly and definitely explained and the reasons fairly and we believe honestly given we must admire the self-abnegation which prompted the furtherance of negotiations to so successful an issue.

"To take the history of the men most prominent in bringing about the formation of this coalition, and look at the palpably inconsistent position in which it places them, we can easily understand how readily their motives are questioned by many.

"First comes Mr John A. Macdonald who has been in Parliament since 1843. He entered a strong Conservative, and violently opposed Responsible Government, and every approach to Constitutional Reform. This continued up to 1854 and in the meantime the Clergy Reserve question was agitating the country and had been the means of destroying many public men. Mr Macdonald had all along opposed any settlement which would deprive the Established Church of the lands. In 1854 however upon the formation of the Coalition Government, the same John A. Macdonald was the very man to take up this matter and put it finally to rest and if he ever did a good act, he did it then. It is not necessary to follow him through the various corrupt acts of his famous eight years tenure of office. They are too well known to need any further ventilation. Many men before him have, under extreme necessity given way to

the unorthodox demands of clamorous and unprincipled supporters. At the present time he stands admitted by all parties, after a chequered political life, to be the most consummate parliamentary tactician that Canada has ever seen.

"Following him let us take a look at the great bugbear of the habitants, the man who has been represented to the simple hearted French Canadians as ready at any time to see them and their institutions, with all they hold dear, unrelentingly immolated on the altar of Upper Canada; who has been pictured in their imaginations as at all times but watching for an opportunity to completely wipe out Lower Canada and place it beyond this mundane sphere. Mr George Brown, since coming to Canada has always been an extreme man, and by that means has been debarred from ever occupying positions of trust and responsibility, and considering his great ability, this has often been a cause of regret among his friends. He assisted to destroy Mr. Hincks's Government, and them in turn valiantly denounced John A. and his colleagues of the Coalition; and his immense direct influence in Upper Canada may be judged from the fact that over 40 members now represent Upper Canada constituencies, who were elected to further the views, in the main, held and advocated by Mr. Brown. That Mr. Brown has sometimes allowed his personal feelings to get the better of his judgment, we readily believe, and being a man of strong prejudices he has often committed grave errors, but [illegible] with pleasure that the last two or three years have softened to some extent, the asperities of his temper and modified in some degree his extreme political views.

In fostering and keeping alive sectional prejudices, perhaps no man more resembles Mr Brown than Mr G. E. Cartier, whom we will reckon as third in our category.

"Violently and exclusively French Canadian in all his sympathies, he has long been the favorite representative of the Church party in Lower Canada. A rebel in 1837 he is now super loyal in all his professions, and we must admit that for years past no act of his can be construed to divest us of the belief that he is sincere in his present

professions. Mr Cartier holds a high place in the affections of his fellow-countrymen but this much cannot be said of him in Upper Canada and indeed it may surprise the sturdy yeomanry of this Province how he and Mr Brown, who may be looked upon as the leaders of our sectional parties, can quietly and comfortably come to an agreement after years of such virulent and merciless denunciation.

"Of Mr T A Galt it may be said, that being an English member from Lower Canada he has never been so mixed up with the sectional and religious matters as some others. We would only say however in order to show that almost every man may commit inconsistent acts, that he signed the Annexation Manifesto in 1849, where he now ranks as a Conservative of the first water It is chiefly with his administrative acts that fault is found, and extravagance and corruption boldly charged.

"But in considering the question of coalition we must divest ourselves to some extent of the past history of the men who are intimately concerned in it, and impartially consider it on its merits.

"It is well known that the question of representative reform has been a leading one in Upper Canada for years and has been the main cause of all the bad feeling engendered between the two Provinces, and the basis and first cause of this apparently incongruous union is to settle, and that forever this question. It was truthfully stated by both parties to the matter that nothing but a determination to arrange this difficulty would justify their meeting for combined political action And from the explanation given in another place from the official paper it will be seen that an earnest effort will at once be made for a satisfactory solution and the details are sufficiently foreshadowed to promise a measure of great importance. The Government when the reconstruction takes place will embrace the ablest men in the country men who are perfectly acquainted with the workings of our political system and who actuated as we believe they are by a desire manfully to meet and overcome the difficulties of the situation, will devote their energies fully to the

work and thus nothing at rest that continued agitation which has sacrificed many of our brightest minds as well as squandered millions of our public money

"So long as this is done, they deserve support, for surely no one is anxious to see repealed the continued state of uncertainty of which the past two years have furnished an example. It is demoralizing as well as disgraceful and almost any remedy should be gladly hailed. Let us free our minds from any consideration of who it is that settles it and merely watch how it is done, and what are the prospects for the success of the plan adopted.

"The charge of bad faith has already been preferred, or at least that a sufficient guarantee has not been given. To this it need only be said that in creating such a revolution the parties concerned ran a great risk, and any semblance of duplicity would justly condemn these to the execration of the people, and forever drive them from public life.

"To every Reformer there will be one regret in thus associating politically with those whom we have for years opposed, and that is the necessary separation from the gallant band of Liberals from Lower Canada under the leadership of Mr Dorion. They have for years stood by Upper Canada and their chivalrous self-denial, for self-denial it was, has earned for them a high place in the hearts of Reformers in this Province, and while their opposition is sincere, it will we hope, be divested of all taint of personal feeling and that no overt act of hostility on the part of either will ever cause these to be regarded by us with anything but the most profound respect and esteem.

Federation

It would certainly be premature to discuss in detail a measure of so complex a nature as the one given in our heading, but nevertheless the revelations of the last few weeks has made it a matter for each to think about, and calmly and dispassionately arrive at a conclusion whether in his mind it is likely to prove efficacious in quieting our difficulties and settling our constitutional mistakes. It may not be improper to give an epitome of our political history

as far as this is concerned, since the Union, in order that we may see clearly what has brought on the existing state of affairs. In 1840 when the Union which has created so many difficulties and so much contention and strife urged on by the Imperial Government was effected, Lower Canada possessed a large preponderance in population and this was the cause of so much grumbling by the French Canadian members, as it unjustly gave Upper Canada too large a share in the management of public affairs and the expenditure of money. But it was then urged as an anti-revolutionary measure, and mainly carried by outside pressure. In the course of a few years, however as the fertile West began to be known and the superiority of climate and soil better appreciated and taken advantage of Upper Canada began to fill up until it first balanced and then surpassed Lower and this fact, coupled with some jealousies and animosities gave rise to the sectional cry of Representation by Population. Some parties have even gone so far as to say that a dissolution of the Union, pure and simple, would be preferable to the present state of the case, but the folly of this will at once be seen when we look at the geographical position of both provinces, and fancy how Upper Canada would keep good her passage to the sea, and Lower her connection with the great ports of the West. But this very reasonable request for Representation by Population has often been advocated in so partisan a manner and even the religious professions of the Lower Canadians held as a ground why Upper Canada should be no longer deprived of her fair representation, that the question has almost become a matter of conscience with the Roman Catholics and thus the bitterness and acerbity which have attended many of the debates on the subject at various times in the House.

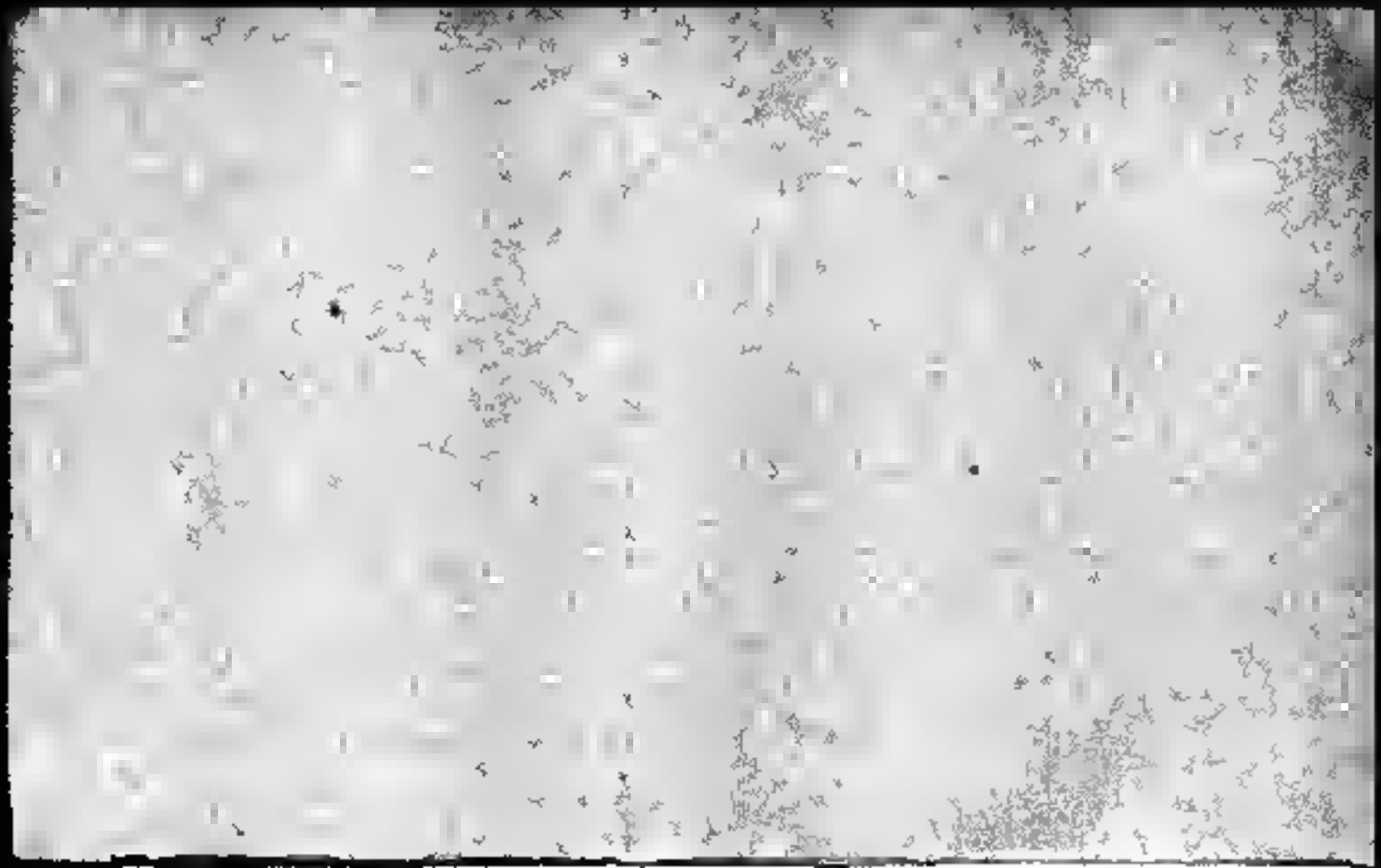
"But for the last few years it has been evident, even to the most enthusiastic supporters of the measure, that without some compromise it would be impossible to carry it and even Mr Brown who may be almost looked upon as the father of the scheme, has repeatedly declared that he was ready and willing to accept any compromise which would give this Province her fair share of justice, and

declaring at the same time that he had no desire to interfere in any way with the peculiar institutions of our neighbours. It will be remembered that during the last session Mr Brown succeeded in having a committee of 20 leading members of the House, of all shades of political opinions, appointed to take into consideration our difficulties, and report upon a scheme which they deemed most expedient as a permanent basis for final settlement. This committee, which embraced Messrs. Brown, Macdonald Cartier Galt, McDougall and Mowat, the most prominent members of the new Cabinet in the Assembly reported nearly unanimously in favor of a Federal Union of all the British North American Provinces, there being but three dissenting voices. Indeed the measure is by no means new Mr Galt has long advocated it and when the probable results are carefully scanned it will be seen that it is a most important as well as advantageous change for us. To be sure the particulars of the measure are not fully arranged, but such is the general desire for it here as well as in the Lower Provinces that we look for a speedy and satisfactory issue. In this plan, of course, Upper Canada being the most numerously populated of any of the contracting states, will have the largest representation in the lower branch of the proposed General Legislature, and consequently the heaviest share of influence. Some indeed are found who think that it will positively injure us to be connected with the poorer Provinces of Nova Scotia New Brunswick, Newfoundland, etc but a glance at their balance sheets would at once dispel any such illusions, and even should our material resources give us any great advantage over them yet the inevitable incorporation of the North West Territory and also British Columbia and Vancouver's Island with their vast undeveloped wealth would more than counter-balance any such drawback.

"It must be truly pleasing to any truly loyal Canadian to think that while a fearful civil war is raging among our immediate neighbours, with true devotion to the British Crown we are on the eve of a bloodless revolution the results of which will be to raise Canada from a mere

Province to the chief corner stone in the great British North American nation.

"Such a prospect deserves the most earnest attention of our public men and while they are earnestly and faithfully working to accomplish it, none but the disappointed and the jealous will try to throw serious obstacles in their way The r labors should be closely watched, but as long as they sincerely endeavour to carry out their pledges every possible leniency should be shown and we mistake Upper Canadians if they do not most effectually frown down any attempts at a factious opposition to the first real display of statesmanship which we have seen for years."



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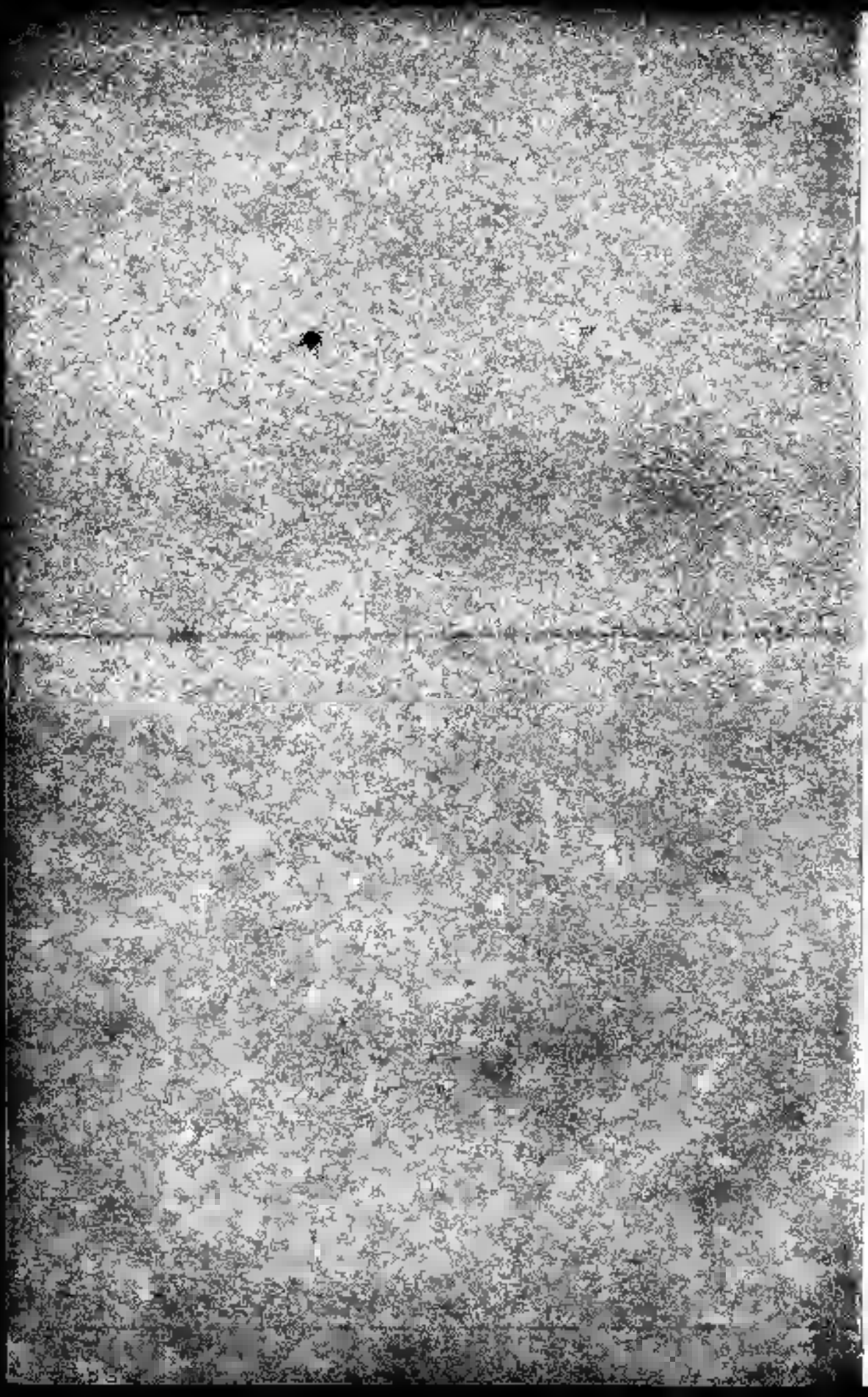

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PAPERS AND RECORDS

VOL. XI

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LENNOX AND ADDINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

PAPERS AND RECORDS

VOL XI

THE NORTH AMERICAN

BEING A SELECTION OF EDITORIALS FROM THE NORTH AMERICAN AN OLD NEWSPAPER AT ONE TIME PUBLISHED IN LENNOX AND ADDINGTON, THE FILES OF WHICH WERE PRESENTED TO THE SOCIETY BY HARVARD McMULLEN BROTHER OF THE PUBLISHERS.

COMPILED AND EDITED
By WALTER S. HERRINGTON K.C. F.R.S.C.

NAPANEE ONTARIO
PUBLISHED BY THE SOCIETY
1924

PRINTED AT THE BEAVER OFFICE

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INTRODUCTION

Over a year ago Mr Harverd McMullen presented to the Society a file of The North American a weekly newspaper published by his brothers, G W and L B McMullen sixty years ago The first issue appeared on the 24th of June, 1862, and was printed in Napanee in the building opposite the Campbell House on the south side of Dundas street In the issue of July 29th, the publishers announced their intention of moving their plant to Newburgh and frankly gave as their reason for so doing that they expected to secure more patronage by way of advertising and subscriptions than was likely to come their way if they remained in Napanee, where the Standard was already established and was considered one of the best edited papers in Eastern Ontario. They continued the publication in Newburgh until May 12th, 1864, when they shifted their plant to Picton We have gone carefully through all the issues covering a period of two years, and without any attempt at classification have selected and now present in chronological order such items as we believe will prove instructive and entertaining to the readers of to-day At least two generations have come upon the scene since these articles were penned A perusal of the following pages will revive many memories in the advanced readers and will give the younger ones a fair insight into the events of the days of their grandparents.

W. S. HERRINGTON

GLEANINGS FROM

The North American

PUBLISHED IN NEWBURGH IN 1862-3-4

Market Quotations

For purposes of comparison with present day prices we select from the first issue the following quotations from the Nepanee market

	$ c.		$ c.
Wheat, per bus	80	to	90
Barley, per bus	50	to	55
Butter, per lb	10	to	12
Cheese, per lb	7	to	10
Lard per lb	8	to	10
Eggs, per doz	7	to	8
Fowls, per pair	25	to	30
Beef per lb	6	to	8
Ham per lb	7	to	8
Hay per ton	8 00	to	10 00

Federal Union

The following selections from the first editorial reflect credit upon the writer when we bear in mind that Federation was still several years distant.

"We have always considered favorably as a remedy for existing or prospective difficulties a change in our North American relations,—which has been but partially brought before the Canadian people, but into which we believe it is the duty of every patriotic man to examine, and an adoption of which, as far as possible would in our opin on prove vastly beneficial to us,—we mean a Federal Union upon a just basis, of all the British North American Provinces. This course, while it would allow each Colony

untrammelled liberty in the management of its own local affairs would give us as a whole a reputation and national character of which our union with Lower Canada has furnished a mere type. It could not be injurious to Upper Canada since it is the largest of all the sections embraced and consequently would have a full and fair share in the general legislation. We believe it would also do away with the unhappy rivalry which the near balance of religious denominations in the two provinces occasions, and would give an opportunity to the different sects to adopt a liberal course towards others, without fear of permanent injury

* * * * * *

"It is to be regretted that no action has been taken by the Canadian authorities in reference to developing the resources of the Northwest Territory and extending the limits of Canada in that direction. We believe this must be done, sooner or later, or the enterprising inhabitants of the neighbouring Union will avail themselves of the discontent already existing in that part of America, to enlarge the boundaries of the great republic."

Defeat of the French in Mexico

It will be remembered that at this time the United States was in the throes of a civil war with no time nor means to pay any attention to external affairs. Mexico, after countless revolutions, found its treasury empty, and Louis Napoleon regardless of the Monroe doctrine, had invaded the country ostensibly with the view of collecting the debts owing to the French but his real object appeared to be the gaining of a foothold on the Western Continent. The following editorial of July 1st foreshadowed what Napoleon subsequently accomplished, the subjugation of the country and the establishment of an Empire, with his tool, Maximilian, brother of Francis Joseph of Austria, on the throne.

"From accounts received some weeks since, it appears that the French army in Mexico suffered a severe defeat from the native Mexican forces. A later report says that they have capitulated; this lacks confirmation. What effect this defeat will have on the Emperor and his subjects

it is impossible to tell although reports show a tendency to continue the war Whether they will endeavour to 'retrieve the honor of France or consent to withdraw an army already reduced by sickness, and probably disconcerted by defeat, and moreover engaged in a wicked and useless attempt to subjugate or as the French Emperor would have it, occupy Mexico, is not certain The latter is certainly the course which should be pursued since the object of sending troops to Mexico was merely to enforce the payment of debts, which the Mexicans threatened to repudiate Almost immediately upon the landing of the allied forces at Vera Cruz, the Mexicans complied with the demands, and England withdrew her forces not so France, who appeared to wish some pretext for maintaining her ground in this weak and unhappy country,—so long distracted by internal strife.

"Since the reputation of Mexican soldiers was at so low an ebb, no one for a moment supposed that they would be at all able to resist successfully the disciplined French veterans. The result has however dispelled any such illusions, for the Mexicans have met them in the open field and defeated them We, of course, would not for a moment suppose that Mexican soldiers are at all equal to French under the same circumstances but when a man feels that he is fighting unmerited oppression it has a wondrous effect upon him. Some men indeed, who are the veriest cowards in other positions, will resist with unflinching tenacity any innovation on their freedom.

"There can be no mistaking Louis Napoleon's great desire for conquest but nevertheless we cannot see the propriety of a needless waste of life and money in the conquest of Mexico.

John A. Joins the Sons of Temperance

The press had already begun to keep in close touch with all the movements of John A Macdonald as is apparent from the following personal reference in the issue of July 22nd

"We never felt more pleasure than we do in announcing that the Hon John A Macdonald was initiated as a Son of

Temperance, on Friday evening last, in the Mechanic's Division, Kingston. This course, on the part of the ex-Attorney General cannot fail to be beneficial to himself and to the many who almost slavishly follow his example.

By August 12th The North American was comfortably housed in its new quarters on the corner of Main and Concession streets, in the Village of Newburgh and in the number published upon that date the editor again returns to his favorite theme.

To Our Patrons

"The North American in changing locations, changes nothing else, it will still maintain the liberal principles it has previously enunciated, since its object is to raise Canada and every part of it to its proper sphere. Whoever may oppose Canada will yet arrive at what she is now so rapidly approaching a first class position among earth's powers. This consummation can be seriously delayed by internal rivalry or strife. The end is certain, but each one should endeavour as it were, to help fate and share in common with patriotic fellow-countrymen the honor of achieving so great an end.

'Some people, in following the dictates of a contracted self interest, often delay great national moves. We trust that neither the people of this country nor any part of Canada will oppose aught that makes for the general interests of the community. In speaking of Canada we do not mean merely the strip as actually surveyed but the vast territory stretching from Atlantic to Pacific known as British North America.

American Troubles

Across the border the North was endeavoring to augment its army in the field by drafting into the service an additional 500 000 men. The shirkers were fleeing into Canada to escape conscription, and while they were unwelcome guests, yet their tales of blood-shed and suffering, bad enough at its best, but no doubt grossly exaggerated, exercised no small influence in moulding public opinion upon this side of the line. The view thus held by Canadians is reflected in the following editorial of August 19th.

"Mr Lincoln no doubt has endeavoured to take a very careful and safe course in the administration of his affairs, but in doing so he has regularly avoided striking at the very foundation (slavery) and acknowledged cause of the present contest which has prolonged the war to the present fearful crisis, when the result appears to be pending as in a balance so uncertain is it which party will prove themselves victorious

"It has been our desire to see the North gain their point if they were likely to act as we supposed they would, viz. do away with the curse of their nation We did not wish to have them declare, at once, that all slaves were free, but to give the world to understand that they would do away with the system as soon as possible and practicable, and in a fair and equitable manner This it has been thought by people well able to judge was not impossible since they could have remunerated all loyal persons for their slave property at an expense far less than the cost is likely to be of raising and maintaining even 300 000 men for one year This indefinite kind of position taken by the president and his Government has undoubtedly been the means of making many friends for the South in Canada and also of weakening the sympathies of many who heretofore expressed themselves as friends of the Union. We know several journals that have always been warm friends of the Federals that are lately moderating very much in their tone and are apparently dissatisfied with the course of the Government. This betokens a change"

American Visitors

Thus forcibly reminds us of the fact that this fratricidal struggle had been under way a long time before the slaves were actually emancipated. Is it possible that it might have been avoided if the plan of compensation suggested by the editor had been adopted? In the next issue, under the above heading, he returns to the subject, and in language with no uncertain sound, roundly scores those undesirable guests

"We are just now well favored with a large access to our population in the persons of Americans who have

"skedaddled" to avoid the draft. As a general rule we are among the first to welcome parties from the other side of the line. They are usually among the first benefactors of Canada since their energetic business habits have a favorable effect upon our population and they are usually the first to conduct or encourage any branch of trade or industry. With the present party, however, we can show no friendship, they have deserted their country in her hour of greatest trial, when the tendons of her vast frame are stretched to the utmost, and every moment threatens a final overthrow. They have basely withdrawn from their native home rather than obey the call to duty, and should success attend her efforts, perhaps none would shout more lustily, or more highly laud the bravery of 'our' heroes than these patriotic citizens. We believe that with the Botany Bay convict they might say—

"True patriots, we for be it understood,
We leave our country for our country's good."

"In whatever direction the sympathies of Canadians may lie, we believe they should spurn any approaches on the part of those who are willing while everything prospers, to profit out of their country, and upon the first approach of danger dispreefully turn their backs with apparently no more feeling than they would go through an ordinary every-day transaction."

Church Dedication

The members of Trinity Church, Napanee, will be especially interested in the report of the dedication of the old stone church which was torn down in 1906 to make room for the present handsome structure erected upon its site. This report appeared in the issue of September 10th, 1862.

"The dedicatory services connected with the opening of the new W. M. church in the Village of Napanee took place on Sunday last, as announced by handbills and otherwise. This church, which has just been completed, is a credit to the society and the place. It has been built at an expense, we understand, of $8,000.00, and it can be denominated a cheap building. The sermons were preached

by the Rev Dr Wood President of the Conference, at 10 30 a m Rev John Black, at 3 p m, and the Rev Dr Nelles Principal of Victoria College, at 7 p.m. The Reverend gentlemen fully sustained their former reputation, and everything passed off creditably The success of the choir especially elicited approbation and Dr West, at the close, took occasion in a very neat manner to bestow a handsome and we believe a well deserved compliment on the singers. We understand that the large attendance produced, as it should, a large collection which as is generally the case was a relief to the steward. There was a bazaar Monday and Tuesday, and also a teameeting on Tuesday evening, of the result we have not heard

"There will be preaching at the same hours next Sabbath by the following ministers Rev George Young morning and evening and the Rev W H Poole, of this place, in the afternoon If the services are as interesting as on last Sabbath, we can only recommend our friends to go, and if they go we would remind them that churches cost money"

Emancipation

That the war to the South was getting upon the nerves of Canadians is evident from the fact that the news columns were filled with items from the different fronts, and the editor frequently summed up the situation as in the following editorial of September 10th

"The long wished and prayed for proclamation by President Lincoln seems likely to be not much longer delayed. The whole presenre of the Republican journals and the chief mouth-pieces of the party are being brought to bear to accomplish this end, as a final means of saving the great, but tottering, Union No person doubts that such a proclamation will be issued, and it is now generally thought that the sooner it appears the better Being steady and we believe consistent, opponents of slavery, we have looked forward to some crisis in this war when it would become a military necessity to free the slaves and thus speedily erase that foul blot from the national American character We have steadily since the war began

wished for success for the Federal party We did this not out of admiration for the principal parties, who are considered exponents of Northern views for to a majority of them, we are happy to take exception nor are we actuated by any enthusiastic admiration of the manner in which matters have been conducted since the war began but we believe that in the great mass of the community at the North there exists a sincere desire to free their land from the great evil that has from its very origin, cursed it. How different with the South, whose professed desire is to perpetuate this very system They who have always ruled the national councils as soon as they perceived that the intelligence of the North was awaking to the infamy of the system at once to perpetuate their horrible dealings in flesh and blood resolved to cap the climax by destroying the very union that had fostered and fed them.

In thus declaiming against the South, we would not be understood to acquit the North as guiltless; many parties in that section have long either openly or in an indirect manner, encouraged the system of human bondage while a large class have so totally forgotten everything like a moral responsibility that they have achieved for their country we cannot but think with partial justice the appellation of a 'Nation without God "

Resuming the subject in his issue of October 1st, the Editor continues his comments :

"It is a mighty step in the right direction and should enlist the sympathy of the entire civilized world. After being trodden under an iron heeled despotism for two hundred years, the wronged African is to have his rights he is henceforth to be numbered among men instead of brutes for the history of slavery would seem to assign to him a position among the irrational and irresponsible portion of creation The civilized portion of the community cannot but applaud this bold humane view of the President, and it will awaken a sympathetic chord in their nature for that portion of the nation loyal to the old constitution. What will become of the slaves is asked on one hand Were it in our province to answer, we would say at once that at present many are needed for the war and when that is

over all, and more than all are required to raise King Cotton on the Southern plantations. As free men their labor will be to more purpose than when their lives were devoid of aim and we indulge the hope that as free men, they will restore the soil, which as slaves, their labor tended to degenerate."

Yates' Hotel

Abel Yates, well known to all of the old residents of Napanee, sought the patronage by the following advertisement:

"Yates Hotel
Corner of Dundas and East Streets Napanee, C.W
Ministers of all denominations half fare
Abel Yates,
Late of The Campbell House, Proprietor"

Separation of Lennox and Addington from Frontenac

In the issue of February 4th, 1863, we see the spark that set fire to the ambitions desire of Lennox and Addington to sever connection with Frontenac and become a separate county. Sidney Warner, Reeve of Ernestown, was a candidate for the Wardenship of the then United Counties of Frontenac, Lennox and Addington but was defeated by a man of inferior ability from Frontenac. The North American denounced in good round terms the selfishness of the representatives from Frontenac. We are not at all surprised therefore to find the following in the next issue:

"At a meeting held yesterday afternoon at the Town Hall, Napanee of the Reeves of Lennox and Addington it was carried that they petition the Governor in-Council for a separation of these United Counties. The vote was unanimous. Fuller particulars next week."

Poland

The editor by no means limited his editorial observations to purely local affairs. He views with equanimity the threatening war clouds in Europe and enlightens his readers by a well written article on March 13th, 1863.

"It is very gratifying to hear every moment of our lives some new effort for human liberty, and while our hearts bleed at the inevitable destruction of life we nevertheless realize that such things must be, and if freedom cannot be achieved in any way but by war then war must come. Poland has earned a classic name in our ears by the noble stand taken in defense of liberty under patriotic leaders against the united power of Russia, Prussia and Austria.

"She has been for years ground under the iron heel of Russia, and we mistake the liberal aspirations of our age if she is longer crushed to the earth. The tone of English statesmen is adverse to any interference unless on behalf of the Poles and France occupies the same position. We only find the would-be autocrat of Prussia in opposition to an immense majority of the Popular Representatives, openly intriguing on behalf of his historical Russia.

"We have always admired the course of the present Emperor of Russia in pushing to a successful end his vast schemes for liberation and we looked for the display of generous self-denial on his part in allowing the Poles whose very nature and temperament are so Anti Russian, to exercise the right of self-government. It may be that he will yet see his error in thus contending against the prevailing notions of the day and the undoubtedly ascendant popular sympathy.

"It must be remembered that Poland at one time was not the oppressed nationality she now is. At one time Poland was the foremost defender of Christianity in Eastern Europe against the inroads of the Turkish and Tartar Barbarians and a feeling of ordinary humanity should prompt us to wish them restored to the position they once held. We do not believe in encouraging acts of hostility against existing rules for trivial reasons, but we look upon this outbreak in Poland as a spontaneous and universal uprising of an oppressed people against laws adverse to their nature and against the rule of a people whose sympathies, desires, education and tendencies are almost the antipodes of their own. Their request was reasonable. It was not granted, and they have availed themselves of

arms to sanction their claim so far they maintain the ascendant. May they succeed"

The Examination at the Academy

In the issue of April 8th is an extended report of the examination at the Newburgh Academy, conducted orally in the old fashioned style. The examination extended over three days and instead of being in private as at present all the ratepayers were invited to come and witness the proceedings.

"The system pursued at the examination was to bring the scholars of all the rooms into one room and thereby allow the spectators to hear the recitations of every class this plan entails considerable delay and we can scarcely believe that the advantage it gives visitors counteracts the long time it takes

"The classes in Geometry Trigonometry French and Algebra acquitted themselves very creditably in their respective branches The scholars of the common school department also by their examinations, paid a high compliment to their teachers. There is one fault, however, which it is impossible to remedy when dealing with a number of small children, that is the confusion attendant on the presence, in one room of 200 or 300 people which, added to the low tone of small scholars makes the otherwise interesting examinations exceedingly unsatisfactory"

The late John D Ham was chairman of the School Board and among the prize winners we note the following 1st in Latin James H. Madden now Judge of the County Court 1st in Arithmetic, Matthew Ryan, now deceased, late Warden of the County and 2nd in Reading W P Doroche Local Registrar of the Supreme Court.

Separation of the Counties

The meeting of the Reeves held in Napanee on February 10th had already borne fruit All the preliminaries to the introduction of a bill providing for the separation of the counties had been completed. The arguments in favor of separation were very neatly summed up in a leading article of April 15th from which we quote a part only

"The population of the three counties and the city was, according to the last census, 66,092, and is probably now not less than 75,000, of which about 30,000 are in Lennox and Addington, a fully sufficient number for independent municipal support. We can easily understand the opposition which is given to the separation project by the members of the County Council from Frontenac, who derive so much benefit from their connection in a monetary line with our county. While there is ample population to justify separation, there are also many other reasons which should impel us to take the step. When the population was thin, and the people poor, there was less necessity for them to leave their homes often for the county capital and consequently less inconvenience experienced by it being at a distance; but now, with new townships constantly opening in the rear and increasing demand for some centre or mart in our immediate vicinity, where the ordinary business of the county can be transacted without the disagreeable necessity of a tedious jaunt to Kingston, we should not be longer deprived of our rights. It has long been an established rule that the senior county allows without protest, the division when the wishes of the junior are known to be inclined in that direction, and after the decisive vote at Napanee last February, we can interpret the course pursued at Kingston by Mr. Flanigan and others, as nothing but a selfish clinging to the old regime against all considerations of general interest.

"In the discussions which will take place upon the County Town, the question will be placed fairly upon its merits and that the people of the different townships will weigh well the consequences of their vote, they should consult their own and the general convenience in the dispatch of the County business, and we believe that the inconvenience they have suffered heretofore will teach them a lesson in bringing it as near their homes as they can. Newburgh will raise no false issues; all they want is a fair and just expression of public opinion on this point and they consider their cause safe. We do not blame parties in Napanee working all they can for their village, as we assuredly shall for ours, but if the people of the larger

County Addington remain but true to their interests, we have no fear of the result When the Bill appears we will keep our readers posted on this important subject.

We hope that the general feeling in favor of a popular vote will prevent the Reeves, at their meeting on Saturday next from taking the settlement of this matter which they have no right to do, out of the hands of its rightful arbiters, the people."

A new question however had arisen—that of the County Town, and The North American left no doubt where it stood upon that question There were four claimants in the field, Napanee, Newburgh, Bath and Tamworth It was a foregone conclusion that neither Bath nor Tamworth could secure the prize but both remained in the field until a vote was taken at a meeting of the Reeves in Napanee on April 11th when Napanee secured a majority of the votes Newburgh was not satisfied with this verdict and contended that so important a question as the selection of a County Town should be determined by a vote of the ratepayers Douglas Hooper was the representative of the County in the Legislative Assembly, and being a Camden man he naturally favored Newburgh's claims Richard Cartwright afterwards Sir Richard, was the largest property owner in Napanee, and he used all of his influence for Napanee As he was a prospective candidate at the next election it will be readily seen that the County Town problem was likely to make itself felt at that election. Canada then embraced only two provinces, Upper and Lower Canada, and the Legislative Assembly met at Quebec. A Coalition Government had been having a hard time of it and went down under a vote of want of confidence moved by John A Macdonald, the member for Kingston afterwards Sir John. The editor of The North American leaves no doubt as to his political leanings in the following editorial

The Want of Confidence Vote

"The truce given by the opposition is over and war is really in vogue in the Legislature On Friday last the Hon. John A Macdonald moved a direct vote of want of

confidence in the administration which of course brings matters to a direct issue We have not learned the fate of the measure, but soon will, the probabilities are that it will be lost by a narrow majority but on the other hand it may possibly carry

In making his speech, the member for Kingston indulged in the usual amount of bombast and humbug which characterizes his efforts. He lost sight of his own chequered political life his own directly opposite votes on the Representation Question his change of opinion on the Clergy Reserve Secularization and accused the present holders of the Treasury benches with inconsistency Such a charge coming from such a source must be considered by all impartial hearers as a mere claptrap cry only made for the sake of regaining the coveted places on the other side of the House.

The County Town Again

Mr Douglas Hooper the member for Lennox and Addington, was a Conservative. The Editor of The North American was a Reformer but as Mr Cartwright was at that time a Conservative also, there was no course open to the Reform editor but to support the man in favor of Newburgh as the County Town and this he proceeds to do as appears from the following editorial

"We have much pleasure in notifying our readers that Mr Hooper last week, gave notice of a Bill to allow the ratepayers of Lennox and Addington to choose their own County Town. This course on the part of the County member, is highly commendable as it refers the whole matter to the rightful arbiters the people although it may suit our friends in Napanee, who fondly but illusively, imagined the whole matter settled by the Reeves.

"However much local feeling may be brought to bear against Mr Hooper in the course he has taken We firmly believe that he will be sustained by the general good sense of the County and that, on the whole he will gain in popular estimation by so just a course.

"We have to praise the well-timed remarks of our contemporary The Standard last week in reference to the

claims of Napanee. No one pretends that Napanee has not an advantage over us in being possessed of water and railway communications but that does not argue that the people of the County will be convenienced more by going to Napanee than Newburgh to do County business and it will be well for our people to understand the wire pulling that will be resorted to by less conscientious advocates of Napanee than our friends of The Standard."

The American War

The election of 1863 was one of the most bitter in the history of our country, yet the American war was the all-absorbing topic of conversation and in the minds of some had a direct bearing upon the campaign. There were grave fears that England might be involved. The press of all shades of politics published columns of news and followed the movements of the opposing forces with harrowing tales of slaughter and suffering. Time and again the editor expresses his abhorrence of the terrible conflicts. The following is from the issue of May 6th:

"This desolating war still continues with as little prospect as ever of termination. Its effect on the trade of the whole world is now keenly felt and so clamorous is public opinion against its continuance that a move of some kind towards a finality will have to be taken by one or another of the contending parties or by some foreign power. Gen. Hooker has commenced an 'On to Richmond' march with what success remains to be seen. It may be that the acknowledged exhaustion of the South will enable him to make an easy capture of that now famous city and it is also possible that he will meet the disastrous fate of McDowell, McClellan and Burnside.

"We can never have any sympathy with the Confederate States in the move they have made. They have defended themselves gallantly, it is true, but the rotten principle of slavery, upon which their Government is founded, is a bar no true British subject can cross. We heartily wish their defeat, but if that is not soon accomplished no considerations should further prolong the war. It has caused an amount of suffering scarcely ever before

equalled it has deranged the commerce not only of our own land but of the entire civilized world, and in the name of humanity should soon be ended"

The Election

The candidates were soon in the field for the election and ranged themselves under three banners The Reformers The Liberal Conservatives and the old die-hard Conservatives under the leadership of Galt, Cartier and John A. Macdonald The latter party was given the rather unsavory title of The Corruptionists Cartwright and Hooper the candidates for Lennox and Addington both claimed to be Liberal Conservatives This was Mr Cartwright's first entry into political life and his youth and inexperience were urged as reasons for not supporting his candidature. In reading their respective addresses to the electors there appears to be little to choose between them Both were for retrenchment and economy as indeed all candidates profess to be and in all probability will so continue to the end of time or so long as legislators are elected by popular vote. Both candidates were for Representation by Population and claimed that Upper Canada did not have its fair proportion of members in the Legislature No candidate in Upper Canada could hope to be elected without this plank in his platform Both were for placing the militia on a sounder footing, and Mr Cartwright went so far as to say "causes over which we can exercise no control may at any instant involve us in a war of the most desperate character"

That he was shaping his canvass so that he might consistently follow either of the old time parties in the house might reasonably be inferred from the following extract from his address:

"I believe the country to be in such peril that it becomes all good citizens Conservative or Reformer to lay aside party disputes and stand together firmly at least till this danger is overpast. And I may urge this the more reasonably because I believe I am justified in saying that almost all the great questions which formerly divided those parties have been peacably adjusted and that if at this juncture

any important differences can be said to exist between them, it lies chiefly in this,—that the Reform party perceive perhaps the most clearly the vital importance of retrenching and adjusting our finances while the Conservatives on the other hand are most alive to the quite as urgent necessity of preparing for the war storm, which any hour may discharge itself on our head.

The Election Candidates

The views of the respective candidates were well known upon the question of the County Town but both took good care not to make any reference to it in their addresses to the electors. The personal merits however were not overlooked. Mr Cartwright represented himself as a very large property owner with great financial interests at stake in the riding and prided himself in being born in the riding and descended from U E L parents, thinking perhaps thereby to score a slight advantage over his opponent who was born in Scotland and came to Canada when a mere child and was brought up in Lower Canada. Mr Hooper retorted that his property holdings were not so large as those of Mr. Cartwright, yet what he had he had earned by hard labor and that his knowledge of the wants and necessities of a farming community was better than that of the other candidate who had never experienced the hardships necessary to obtain a livelihood by manual labor. After the campaign was well under way, the Reformers held a rather stormy meeting at Newburgh with the result that they concluded that it was too late to put a candidate in the field. This seemed quite satisfactory to The North American whose editor would have been placed in an awkward position if his political party had seen fit to nominate a candidate. He was quite sincere in the following editorial

"We are glad that this conclusion was arrived at, for although we would very much like to see this county represented by a good moderate Reformer yet in the present juncture, as we stated last week, we believe it very imprudent for a third man to enter the field, for our part, being satisfied with Mr Hooper's past course, and also that

if re-elected he will be as consistent, we shall do all we can in a lawful manner to ensure his election"

"The Supplementary Estimates"

The editor essayed at times to be facetious We leave the reader to form his own opinion of his success along this line.

By special favor we have received the following list of supplementary estimates to be proposed to the House shortly

Salary of a compositor from the "Grumbler" office, to teach the Hon. Mr Cameron, the new printer his new business	$ 1000 00
Printer's devil to assist	500 00
To provide a new set of brains for Mr Cauchon	1 00
Repairs to Mr Ryerson's political morality	20 00
To purchase some of Mr. Dunkin's self-conceit for Mr. Doreon	10 00
For a bag to shake up J A Macdonald and George Brown together with a view of seeing which will be the first to emerge	50
To print 500 copies of Mr Wright's orations for general circulation say	2 00
To procure a foreign mission or something to get rid of Mr Carter	50 00
For a copy of Joe Miller for Mr Rymal	50
To purchase bacon, eggs and other palatable means of sustinence for the pupils of the U C. College	500 00
To pay Dr Ryerson's expenses to Nova Zembla	10 00
For a dancing master to instruct Messrs. Benjamin and Baxter in the sailor's hornpipe	10 00
To furnish Godley, the Court Jesterfield with a few grains of common sense	10
To furnish paper pellets for members to throw at each other when in committee of the whole	10000 00
For an interpreter to explain Isaac Buchanan's speech	1 00

For obtaining a facsimile of Isaac Buchanan's laugh to send to the next World's Fair as one of Canada's greatest curiosities 100 00

The Election

To those of us who have had opportunities of witnessing the entire absence of even friendly relations between Sir John A. Macdonald and Sir Richard Cartwright, it is inconceivable that at one time these two men were so intimately associated in politics that the latter found it necessary to deny the charge brought against him that he was dominated by John A. It is a fact, however, that they were very intimate both socially and politically and on nomination day Mr. Cartwright in referring to a current report declared that he "was not under the thumb of John A. Macdonald". The election took place on the 17th and 18th of June, and Cartwright was returned by a majority of 285. The Reformers under the leadership of John Sandfield Macdonald in Upper Canada and A. A. Dorion in Lower Canada, carried the country by a fair majority. In Lennox the question of the County Town had a marked effect, particularly in Napanee, North Fredericksburgh, Newburgh and Camden, as will be seen from the following returns:

	Cartwright	Hooper
Napanee	202	52
North Fredericksburgh	190	59
Newburgh	12	151
Camden	334	560

Throughout the rest of the county the Conservatives appear to have divided their votes, while the majority of the Reformers voted for Cartwright, probably because he was a young man of means with no political sins to answer for, while Hooper had a Conservative record in the House with slim chances of ever making a Reformer out of him. The North American declared itself disappointed in the result, but upon the whole took the defeat rather gracefully and concluded its leading editorial upon the election as follows:

"We are yet to be convinced that the Reformers will not regret the vote they have this time given, and that when it is too late to remedy it, as it is Mr Cartwright is now member elect for this county and as such must act as our representative We wait the development of his course with anxiety only hoping, but we confess against hope, that his course on all questions will be as liberal as his ardent admirers anticipate If he gives a support to the present Government in opposition to his friend John A he will be a political curiosity such as is not often found in the ranks to which he belongs, more especially in the celebrated Liberal city of Kingston."

The New Member

The new parliament met on August 13th, and upon the first vote it was found that the government had a majority of only eight or ten One of the first acts of the Ministry was to pass an order-in-council constituting Napanee the County Town of the new County of Lennox and Addington as Mr Hooper during the last session of the previous parliament had secured the passage of a bill separating the counties, and the only necessary step remaining to enable the new county to proceed to set its house in order was the naming of the County Town For this Mr Cartwright got the blame and was charged with a violation of his pre-election pledge that he would not favor the naming of the County Town by the government if a majority of the ratepayers petitioned for having it determined by a popular vote. No such petition had been presented but The North American claimed that one was being circulated to the knowledge of the member and that his action was premature and calculated to circumvent the will of the electors. As a matter of fact a petition had been forwarded to the Government asking for delay, and also a counter petition praying that the proclamation do issue at once putting the act of separation into force and naming the County Town, and while Mr Cartwright had stated upon the hustings that he would not oppose having a vote taken upon the question, there is no evidence that he was responsible for the issuing of the proclamation There is every reason to

believe that Stevenson, afterwards the Honourable John Stevenson speaker of the first parliament of the Province of Ontario and who was named in the proclamation as the first Warden was the person responsible for securing the passing of the Order-in-Council that put an end to the controversy that had already lasted too long. Moreover we have no reason to believe that Mr Cartwright was persona grata with the government as he voted steadily against it, for which The North American called him to task.

'What say Reformers now, we wonder? Their pet candidate and liberal minded representative has scarcely come up to the political mark they set for him. Mr Cartwright, many of them said, while the election was going on, was pledged to them even personally to give a generous support to the present government and to judge them entirely by their measures. We ourselves heard him say that he would not vote want of confidence in them at the opening of the session, but would give them a fair trial. It may be well asked how has he fulfilled those pledges? He gave his vote for Mr Wallbridge, and since then has steadily voted against the government and on the first opportunity declaring by his vote, for his speeches say nothing, that he had no confidence in the administration."

John A. Macdonald

A week after Mr Cartwright had been declared elected the wrath of the editor appears to have subsided so far as the local election was concerned. He was a Reformer at heart, although for local reasons he did all he could to secure the return of Mr Hooper. The Reformers claimed seventy-three seats in the House and accorded to the opposition fifty-one, and the independents six. In his pre-election notices he had the three classes, Reformers, Corruptionists and Liberal Conservatives but in summing up the returns after the election, he put John A back in the Conservative fold, and although he had backed a Conservative himself with all the force he could command, he could not resist quoting with approval the following from The Globe

"Will Mr. John A. Macdonald please come to the rescue and tell the poor disconsolates who still cling to his coat-tails, what he will do? He has the reputation of being an eminently ingenious man and as one of his enthusiastic supporters once described him, he is a cat with nine lives. It is this belief which supports his admirers now amid all their afflictions. they cling to it as drowning men to straws. They believe that he has yet some dodge in reserve, some double-shuffle trick, some nicely pre-arranged distribution of the cards. In fact, not a few rather incline to think that, for some reason or other,—to a comprehension of which they do not pretend—he likes the present look of affairs. But unless he makes haste, they will lose all confidence and pitch him overboard. We who are perfectly impartial, can afford to wait, but they cannot. As it appears to us, for all his boasted generalship, he has brought his party to about as low an ebb as the most bungling political leader could possibly do. Mr. Cartier can yet bring up a compact phalanx. Not so large as it once was, yet one of which he may boast. However unworthy he has at least manoeuvred so as to gain the confidence of his countrymen. John Alexander has manoeuvred and lost. His chief captains have been cut off. Sergeant John Hillyard Cameron, if is true remains and may give some strength but with that exception the trains are gone. No longer can he with all his effrontery pretend that he is able to meet his Lower Canadian allies upon equal terms. We do not care to be thought curious, but we would like to know what excuse he has to offer to Monsieur Cartier for the results which have followed that once much bepraised, but now sadly be-cursed non-confidence motion of his. It will require a tremendous display of trickery on his part, once more to redeem his character.

Neither The Globe nor the editor of The North American proved to be very good prophets, for within twelve months both papers had a demonstration that all of the nine lives of John A. were not yet exhausted and were called upon to chronicle the fact that he had not been pitched overboard but was received into a new Coalition

Government side by side with the cherished political ideals of The Globe.

One would hardly recognize Sir Richard Cartwright as the same individual as is referred to in the following editorial note of September 2nd:

"Mr. Cartwright has found his natural channel, fossil Conservatism, and while this country sends him to Parliament he will be found in the same place. His speech on the defences of the Province, as quoted in the Morning Chronicle is a rehash of his speeches about the county, where he portrayed the danger of an aggressive war by the Americans, and the necessity of immediate and full preparation for it."

The House had not been in session three weeks before trouble arose in the government ranks in readjusting the portfolios and the majority was reduced to two. The North American sounded the note of warning, and asked: "Is not some reconstruction possible?"

The Provisional Council of the County of Lennox and Addington

The provisional council was not long in assuming the duties of their new offices. The following is from the issue of September 16th:

"The first meeting of the Provisional Council was held on Thursday last, as directed by the Governor's Proclamation. All the Reeves and Deputies were present, Mr. Stevenson occupying the chair. Mr. Werner moved the appointment of Mr. Stevenson as Provisional Warden, and it was carried without opposition. Wm. V. Detlor, Esq., was appointed County Clerk, and Edmund Hooper, Esq., County Treasurer. An appropriation of $20,000 was voted for County Buildings, and the Council meets again in October to select a site for the Court House and Jail. An Executive Committee was appointed, consisting of Messrs. Stevenson, Warner, Ham, Lapum, Perry, Sexsmith and J. J. Watson."

Review of 1863

We find very little more worthy of reproduction until

the final number of 1864. Among his other reviews, the editor sums up the position in Europe as follows:

"The year that has passed has been a momentous one in the world's history not so much perhaps, for the great revolution it has effected as for the important moves political and otherwise originating with it, which are soon destined to have a lasting and important bearing on the future of our history. In the great political arena from which—as a colony—we are almost entirely excluded we find a general restlessness which is a sure forerunner of some important change. Russia whose growth of late has been amazing has been and still is in serious trouble with her Polish subjects, and while from the emancipation edict and other liberal proclivities, we were led to expect a humane and forbearing course from her we must yet admit that the cruel Scythian spirit is still predominant and the liberal minds of the world are earnestly wishing that these revolutionists may yet succeed in effecting a dismemberment of the Empire.

"The one man in Europe towards whom all seem to cast their eyes when trouble is brewing Napoleon is now apparently in as much of a quandary as any who direct their steps after his leadership. He is generally suspected and although possessed of immense power he is nevertheless pampered with conflicting interests and circumstances which prevent him in some manner from pursuing all the nefarious schemes he may propose.

"When we cross the ocean we reach a struggle which now almost engrosses the attention of the world, the American Civil War. The same noble and determined course of the North to put down slavery and the same courageous but misdirected efforts of the South to maintain it, continue. The struggle has scarcely abated but is confined to a more limited ground than formerly. Gradually wrong is yielding to right and although the death struggle may be hard yet to death this monstrous evil is doomed, and sooner or later dissolution must inevitably take place."

War in Europe

In the issue of January 20th, 1864 there appeared the following forecast, which eventually proved all too true

"The state of affairs in Europe as seen by the latest intelligence received bears every indication of war Germany having already made advances towards the Danes but as yet no collision or struggle has taken place, nevertheless the appearances of an amicable arrangement and settlement of the existing difficulties other than by the shedding of blood seems to be entirely beyond the hopes of any The Danish people are apparently much in favor of war and the sympathy they expect and receive from England coupled with the support they would undoubtedly get from their brother of Sweden and Norway do much towards nerving them to a bold resistance of any intrusion upon their rights as a nation The grasping avaricious character of the French Emperor is here again very apparent his long pent up desire of extending his empire to the shores of the Rhine is now looking out and becoming more visible as he imagines his chances of success better"

The Ministry Will It Live ?

Europe was threatened with a devastating war involving several countries, the United States was engaged in a bloody fratricidal struggle Mexico had been subjugated by France and a deputation was tendering the crown of the new empire on this continent to Archduke Maximilian of Austria. We in Canada were not free from trouble The tenure of the new government was becoming more precarious day by day and no easy solution of the difficulty seemed to be forthcoming In the issue of February 10th, the editor laments the unsettled condition of affairs

"This is now an everyday question and anxious knots of amateur politicians are daily gathered about every street corner giving the question a coloring according to their individual feelings or prejudice The present Reform Government, it is well known have worked their way under circumstances of extreme difficulty and the political horizon is as much clouded now as ever They last session met

Parliament after a General Election with only a majority of 2 or 3 votes and by an unexampled attendance of members carried through the business and returned office

Perhaps none have been better pleased than ourselves with many acts of the present administration and on numerous occasions we have unhesitatingly declared our confidence in its integrity and honesty It has done much towards reducing the expense of Government and placing us on a good financial footing but we believe there are few who desire to see the scenes of last session enacted over again. Such political canvassing and coaxing such tremendous exertions of the OUTS to get IN and the INS to stay IN were never before seen, and during such seasons as this the business of the country must be neglected Men who should devote their undivided attention to the best interests of their constituents waste valuable time in endeavours to influence the Goddess of Fortune to favor the one or the other political party with which they are identified Such has been almost without interruption the position of affairs since the accession to power of the present administration, and is now becoming a grave question whether it should last longer

The New County Council

"Now that the Municipal elections are over, we suppose that there will be no delay in erecting the buildings necessary for county purposes so that we may soon become a totally distinct county without any reference at all to the senior county of Frontenac It is not to be denied that the people of Newburgh felt much chagrined and disappointed at losing the County Town, without any appeal to a popular vote, but that question is gone and no amount of agitation would now be likely to have the least effect on the matter, and since one question is settled, by what means it is not our province to herald. It now becomes the duty of every man to aim to burden the county as little as possible with a county debt, in this the beginning of our career In the building of the Court House in Kingston a vast amount of money was lavished and an expenditure unlimited in that should be a timely warning to our local legislators. In a

final settlement with Frontenac which must soon take place, we will experience the dire effects of this extravagance for it will be all but impossible to get anything like an adequate value for the immense pile of buildings owned by the counties If the matter is managed judiciously we may by the gift of the county property begin life nearly clear from encumbrance save what is expended in our own affairs

"The bitter feeling in Frontenac against the separation will be apt to create a great difficulty in the way of an amicable settlement of the county business as we may be sure they will carefully guard anything that will directly or indirectly militate against their local interests If however anything imprudent is done, on our own ground we will have our own representatives to blame, and with the story of past experience to teach them, any error on their part will be almost inexcusable. The county needs good substantial buildings and they are not able to pay too high a price for them and we believe there is hardly a member of the county council who will not faithfully work for the accomplishment of so desirable an end"

From the issue of February 17th we learn that the provisional council for Lennox and Addington had met and transacted a good deal of important business, including the adoption of plans for a new court house and gaol and the advertising for tenders for their erection The editor seemed to have the faculty of correctly sizing up the situation in foreign countries In one editorial he laments the threatening war cloud in Europe. Germany had delivered a bullying ultimatum to Denmark demanding the evacuation of Schleswig Denmark relying upon the probability of England intervening and the sympathy of France, Sweden Italy and Russia was not disposed to submit. Prussia and Austria on the other hand, backed up Germany Archduke Maximilian could not refuse the tempting offer of the crown of the new Empire of Mexico, and The North American with a true prophetic genius, warns him of his probable fate in the following brief editorial

"Maximilian has finally accepted the Crown of Mexico

and will soon sail for his new dominions. Whether Napoleon's policy of placing a Prince on a Mexican throne will be as satisfactory as he hoped is yet to be seen Mexico is one of the most thoroughly unreliable of all nationalities and it will be little short of a miracle if the new Emperor makes any better headway than the different presidents have in the last twelve or thirteen years.

As The North American did not continue publication to chronicle the accuracy of its prediction we might here mention that the ill advised Archduke did not prove to be an exception to the rule that the average reign of the Mexican rulers at that time was about two years, and the reign generally terminated in banishment or execution Maximilian was hurled from the throne by the Republican forces and shot at Queretaro on June 19th, 1867

From the latter part of February 1864, there was no lack of material to engage the editor's pen and he took full advantage of it all, and besides publishing copious reports of the events of the day he gave his readers the benefit of his views upon the various topics War had broken out in Europe and Parliament was again in session.

War

"Our readers will observe by the telegraphic reports in another column, to which we have devoted a large space, that war has already commenced in Europe, but as yet we have no very definite news as to the result, the Germans evidently keeping back the news, although while the Danes are single handed there can be but little doubt of the finale. England is just now in a neutral position much to the chagrin of Denmark, but we scarcely think she will maintain this attitude when the integrity of Denmark is threatened However we cannot even imagine any peacable termination to the present complications.

How like the comments of the press when the news of the outbreak of the Great War first reached us !

Parliament

The Provincial Parliament opened on Friday last in

Quebec. The speech from the throne, which we give in another piece refers to many important subjects, which, if the government are not defeated, will probably be adjusted in some manner before the House is prorogued. There are rumours of changes of the Administration by admitting Mr Bell of Russell as Provincial Secretary, Mr Ferguson Blair becoming Solicitor General West.

"The Globe is not at all pleased at this prospect and seems to be confident that it will not succeed with the Upper Canada supporters of the Administration. As usual at the opening of parliament, Quebec is full of all sorts of rumors with regard to politics and each party is confident of supremacy. Of course no one knows with certainty what will be the end, but we do not wish to see the scenes of last session repeated. We have not heard yet whether the opposition will move amendments to the address or not, but there is a rumor that they will test the Government on their financial policy and not on the address. If they are guilty of so much propriety as this it will be the first offence of the kind."

Our County Buildings

"It is with much satisfaction that we observe the near prospect of our county buildings being placed under contract. The plans as amended and adopted seem to meet with general approval, and we trust that nothing may occur to mar a satisfactory arrangement as regards the contracts and the ultimate completion of the whole within the required time."

In the issue of March 9th appears a full report of a two days session of the Provisional County Council at which the various tenders for building the Court House and Gaol were considered. They varied from $31500 00 to $42089 00. The contract was awarded to John Forin, of Belleville, for $33146 00.

To Advertisers

We were somewhat surprised to find that the issue of May 12th was published in Picton instead of Newburgh and

in a leading editorial the writer explains his appearance in Picton but assigns no reason for quitting Newburgh

As for our appearance, we would only say that for a long time two public papers have been supported in Picton, other business has increased at least four-fold and we give the people of the county sufficient credit for public spirit, to trust them for a generous patronage, if the object is really deserving We shall at all times earnestly strive to maintain a consistent course, without respect to parties or personal affinities on all occasions to denounce wrong and uphold right and while we take this course, fearlessly though we are perfectly aware that we will make enemies, we are convinced that we will meet the approval of all right thinking people, whose minds are biased rather towards right than interest.

Evidently Newburgh did not appreciate the efforts of the McMullen Bros to maintain a local press in the village, and if they found that their venture there was not a paying one, it was quite natural that they should try their fortune in Picton which was their native town

The paper retained the same advertisements that appeared in it when published in Newburgh probably because the period over which the advertising contracts were to run had not yet expired, but there were no further news items in its columns touching upon local affairs in Lennox and Addington It is quite refreshing however to read the terse and sensible comments of the editor upon the general news of the day and particularly the political situation in Canada. They give us a fair glimpse at history in the making during a most important crisis in the political development of our country He sums up the advance of General Grant as follows :

The American War

The victorious army of the Potomac still reports success. Gen Grant is clearing away obstacles on the way to Richmond which he is rapidly nearing Several encounters have taken place in the last few days and the slaughter has been terrible the Federals admitting 15 000

wounded On the South Gen Butler has defeated Beauregard and is within ten miles of Richmond, the losses on both sides are heavy but the advantage is with the North every time. On the whole the tide of fortune seems turned against J Davis & Co and the Southern Bubble so manfully fought for must soon collapse"

General Grant

In a subsequent issue the reader's attention is directed to the following picture of the leader of the Northern army

"A clergyman writes from the army of the Potomac of an interview with Lieutenant General Grant, whom he met sitting in a once elegant mansion with a New York paper in his hand quietly enjoying his cigar — Like everyone else who meets him, we were charmed with his quiet, modest simplicity and manly bearing He is a low voiced, diffident man with fair skin and brown hair-locks younger even than Fremont and talks slowly like one used to keeping his own secrets. He says he never had a headache God grant he may have no headache during the coming eventful month When I rallied him pleasantly about the traditional cigar which he used as Napoleon did the snuff box, he smilingly replied 'When the war is over I am going to give it up He has the most undoubted confidence in the troops. In every tent we hear the same spontaneous testimony"

In the interval between the dates of the last number published in Newburgh March 16th and the first number published in Picton May 12th the government of John Sandfield Macdonald unable any longer to command a majority of votes in the House resigned on the 21st of March The Governor Lord Monck was at his wits end. It seemed a difficult task to form any government that could long remain in office The tension between the two provinces was increasing every day He tendered the honor of forming a ministry to two different ex ministers but each in turn failed to select a cabinet. He then turned to the much abused "Corruptionists" Sir Etienne Tache and John A Macdonald, who for the second time assumed the reins The North American in its first Picton issue,

gives its readers an indication of its views upon the combination.

Parliamentary

"The acceptance of office by a new Government, the re-election of its members and their meeting Parliament has been a political topic for the last few weeks, and as a motion of want of confidence is soon to be moved, we will probably be fully satiated with political squabbling this summer as we were last. What the prospects of the stability of the ministry are, we do not know but it must be a matter of regret that political revolutions should be so frequent in Canada. As regards the present House it is perfectly plain that conducting a Government with it, is a delicate piece of business and nearly every political prophet looks forward to a general election as imminent.

"How the present administration would stand in the event of an appeal to the country is a matter of great doubt there are several of its members not at all popular in Upper Canada, and the vote of her constituencies in the aggregate would be averse to it as the other hand, in the Lower Province, the opposite would be the case, but which side would get the largest sectional majority is always a matter of uncertainty. For our part, we believe that as strong Government can be formed till some understanding is arrived at, whereby sectional issues will be, to a certain extent, abandoned and the violent personal differences now existing amicably settled."

Although the editor's sanctum had been shifted and his paper no longer touched upon matters of local interest in Lennox and Addington, yet we cannot forbear reproducing a few more editorials touching upon the political crisis at Quebec. These articles give the history of that crisis an interesting personal touch and the able manner in which the editor handled the public questions of the day might well serve as a guide to many present day editors of our Provincial newspapers.

The Taché-Macdonald Government was having a tempestuous time with their ship of state. They would no sooner weather one storm than they would encounter

another We are familiar with the facts of those pre-confederation days as we read them in our histories but in these editorials written at a time when the future was in doubt and men were gathering in groups on the street corners and wondering what would happen next, we get some idea of the nervous strain that the statesmen of that time were undergoing Here we have an editor in a small country town who feels the responsibility of his position He has his political favorites but realizes that the time has come when there must be a change The affairs of the union between Upper and Lower Canada had not been running smoothly for years Nearly everyone was convinced that one government could not legislate in all matters for both provinces yet owing to their geographical position and mutual commercial interests, they could not very well be wholly separated Some sort of union was necessary What was it to be? The bad blood aroused by the frequent dissolutions did not make the task of solving the problem an easy one. We can read between the lines of the following editorials that apprehension that all was not well The question that seemed to loom up large on the political horizon was "what next?" To add to the difficulty of the situation the finances of the country were in bad shape with no immediate prospect of improvement. There were four view points of the crisis, none of which could be disregarded —the racial religious, economic and political. Well might the editor of a small country newspaper quake before them. The more we read such editorials as are here reproduced the more respect will we have for the Fathers of Confederation who sank their political differences, grappled with the question and laid a firm foundation for our Dominion which has awakened the admiration and envy of the statesmen of the world when confronted with similar complications

Fall of the Ministry

"The Taché-Macdonald Government were defeated on Tuesday night last by a majority of 2, the votes standing 60 to 58 We would give the yeas and nays only that in the report furnished by the Globe we find, on counting, that there are but 52 names given among the nays. The

question was on an amendment to go into a Committee of Supply moved by Mr A. A. Dorion to condemn the $100 000 transaction with the City of Montreal and the Grand Trunk Railway Messrs Rankin and Dunkin voted yea on the amendment. The motion was accepted as one of Want of Confidence and it is likely that a dissolution will take place, though we have not yet heard'

A Coalition

'Last week we made the announcement that the Tache-Macdonald Government were defeated and gave as our opinion in accordance with the generally conceived impression that dissolution of the house would take place The events of the past week, however, have completely revolutionized the political horizon, and led many to even doubt the evidence of their own senses.

"Shortly after the defeat of the administration, Mr J A. Macdonald and Mr Galt called on Mr. George Brown, who has so long and strenuously opposed them. Mr Brown promptly responded to the call and a basis for the settlement of our sectional and constitutional difficulties was at once broached and discussed

"Announcements are being made from day to day by the Government and Mr Brown as to the success and progress of affairs, and it is likely that a final settlement was made yesterday Wednesday afternoon.

"To say that the announcement by Mr Macdonald, of the fact that the negotiations were going on with Mr Brown took the House and country by surprise, would be a weak form of expression the matter completely astounded everybody as the universal opinion was, that the disputes of former years had made an impassable breach between Mr Brown and the members of the old Coalition Government

"After more mature reflection however the general opinion seems to be that the step was wise and the prospect of a speedy and permanent settlement of our difficulties by a federal union as is proposed is gratefully hailed as a relief from the continual agitation and disputing of the last seven or eight years.

"Thus far it is admitted on all hands the proceedings have been conducted with the utmost candor and fairness, and the disinterested conduct of the members of the Government, as well as Mr Brown, is highly creditable to their loyal devotion to the true interests of the country

"In agreeing upon a federal union as a basis of the settlement of our constitutional difficulties we believe that the only feasible plan has been selected not that it will be the most advantageous to Upper Canada but is more fair on the whole than any other

"It would be premature to give the proposed policy in anything like detail as it has not yet been officially announced, but we would merely remark that each province will have a separate Legislature for local matters and then a General Legislative body as well as a Government for the management of affairs pertaining to both provinces, and in the lower branch of the general body the representation will be based on population.

This is an outline of the scheme as proposed and so far it meets with a hearty approval although there are some mal-contents.

We believe it is the plain duty of every good citizen to at least give the new arrangement a fair and impartial trial watch closely their administrative acts, as well as their legislative movements, and if they honestly and fairly endeavour to remedy the existing evils and smooth the ill-feeling between the two sections, give them an open and hearty support and on the other hand if their course is one of selfish aggrandizement, and their talk of devotion and self sacrifice merely a sham, we would be among the first to put forth our little assistance to doom them as public men But the risk under the circumstances would be too great for anything but an open and guileless proceeding for the characters of everyone concerned would be blasted forever, were the least semblance of double-dealing to be discovered

"They have undertaken a vast responsibility and while they set themselves to the performance of the task no factious obstacles should be thrown in the way; let them be closely watched, and rigorously judged not by the past

history of any one of them, but exclusively on their merits.

Coalitions

"Now that the surprise of the Canadian people has somewhat subsided, after the remarkable political revolution of the last two weeks, it may be well for everyone to calmly ask himself the question 'What may be expected from such a fusion?' For our part, when the news of a probable coalition between Messrs Brown, Galt, Cartier and John A. Macdonald arrived we were perfectly incredulous and even when it became beyond the possibility of a doubt, we could scarcely credit our eye-sight. So determined and violent has been the conduct of these men towards each other for years past that an understanding between them seemed almost impossible.

"But now that it has been fully, clearly and definitely explained and the reasons fairly and we believe honestly given, we must admire the self-abnegation which prompted the furtherance of negotiations to so successful an issue.

"To take the history of the men most prominent in bringing about the formation of this coalition, and look at the palpably inconsistent position in which it places them, we can easily understand how readily their motives are questioned by many.

"First comes Mr John A. Macdonald who has been in Parliament since 1843. He entered a strong Conservative, and violently opposed Responsible Government, and every approach to Constitutional Reform. This continued up to 1854 and in the meantime the Clergy Reserve question was agitating the country and had been the means of destroying many public men. Mr Macdonald had all along opposed any settlement which would deprive the Established Church of the lands. In 1854 however upon the formation of the Coalition Government, the same John A. Macdonald was the very man to take up this matter and put it finally to rest, and if he ever did a good act, he did it then. It is not necessary to follow him through the various corrupt acts of his famous eight years tenure of office. They are too well known to need any further ventilation. Many men before him have, under extreme necessity, given way to

the exorbitant demands of clamorous and unprincipled supporters. At the present time he stands admitted by all parties, after a chequered political life, to be the most consummate parliamentary tactician that Canada has ever seen.

Following him let us take a look at the great bug bear of the habitants, the man who has been represented to the simple hearted French Canadians as ready at any time to see them and their institutions, with all they hold dear mercilessly immolated on the altar of Upper Canada who has been pictured to their imaginations as at all times but watching for an opportunity to completely wipe out Lower Canada and place it beyond this mundane sphere Mr George Brown since coming to Canada has always been an extreme man, and by that means has been debarred from ever occupying positions of trust and responsibility and considering his great ability, this has often been a cause of regret among his friends. He assisted to destroy Mr Hincks Government, and then in turn violently denounced John A and his colleagues of the Coalition, and his immense direct influence in Upper Canada may be judged from the fact that over 40 members now represent Upper Canada constituencies who were elected to further the views, in the main, held and advocated by Mr Brown. That Mr Brown has sometimes allowed his personal feelings to get the better of his judgment, we readily believe, and being a man of strong prejudices he has often committed grave errors but many have noticed with pleasure, that the last two or three years have softened to some extent, the asperities of his temper, and modified in some degree his extreme political views

In fostering and keeping alive sectional prejudices, perhaps no man more resembles Mr Brown than Mr G E. Cartier, whom we will reckon as third in our category

Violently and exclusively, French Canadian in all his sympathies, he has long been the favorite representative of the Church party in Lower Canada A rebel in 1837, he is now super-loyal in all his professions, and we must admit that for years past no act of his can be construed to divest us of the belief that he is sincere in his present

professions. Mr Cartier holds a high place in the affections of his fellow-countrymen but this much cannot be said of him in Upper Canada and indeed it may surprise the sturdy yeomanry of this Province how he and Mr Brown, who may be looked upon as the leaders of our sectional parties can quietly and comfortably come to an agreement after years of such violent and merciless denunciation

Of Mr T A Galt it may be said that being an English member from Lower Canada he has never been so mixed up with the sectional and religious matters as some others. We would only say however in order to show that almost every man may commit inconsistent acts that he signed the Annexation Manifesto in 1849 while he now ranks as a Conservative of the first water It is chiefly with his administrative acts that fault is found and extravagance and corruption boldly charged

But in considering the question of coalition we must divest ourselves to some extent of the past history of the men who are intimately concerned in it and impartially consider it on its merits

It is well known that the question of representative reform has been a leading one in Upper Canada for years and has been the main cause of all the bad feeling engendered between the two Provinces and the basis and first cause of this apparently incongruous union is to settle and that forever this question It was truthfully stated by both parties to the matter that nothing but a determination to arrange this difficulty would justify their meeting for combined political action And from the explanation given in another place from the official paper it will be seen that an earnest effort will at once be made for a satisfactory solution and the details are sufficiently fore-shadowed to promise a measure of great importance. The Government, when the reconstruction takes place will embrace the ablest men in the country men who are perfectly acquainted with the workings of our political system, and who actuated as we believe they are by a desire manfully to meet and overcome the difficulties of the situation will devote their energies fully to the

work and thus setting at rest that continued agitation which has sacrificed many of our brightest minds as well as squandered millions of our public money

"So long as this is done, they deserve support, for surely no one is anxious to see repeated the continued state of uncertainty of which the past two years have furnished an example. It is demoralizing as well as disgraceful and almost any remedy should be gladly healed. Let us free our minds from any consideration of who it is that settles it and merely watch how it is done, and what are the prospects for the success of the plan adopted.

"The charge of bad faith has already been preferred, or at least that a sufficient guarantee has not been given To this it need only be said that in creating such a revolution the parties concerned run a great risk and any semblance of duplicity would justly condemn them to the execration of the people, and forever drive them from public life.

"To every Reformer there will be one regret in thus associating politically with those whom we have for years opposed and that is the necessary separation from the gallant band of Liberals from Lower Canada under the leadership of Mr Dorion They have for years stood by Upper Canada and their chivalrous self-denial for self-denial it was has earned for them a high place in the hearts of Reformers in this Province and while their opposition is sincere, it will we hope, be divested of all taint of personal feeling and that no overt act of hostility on the part of either will ever cause them to be regarded by us with anything but the most profound respect and esteem"

Federation

"It would certainly be premature to discuss in detail a measure of so complex a nature as the one given in our heading but nevertheless the revolution of the last few weeks has made it a matter for each to think about, and calmly and dispassionately arrive at a conclusion whether in his mind it is likely to prove efficacious in quieting our difficulties and settling our constitutional mistakes It may not be improper to give an epitome of our political history,

as far as this is concerned since the Union In order that we may see clearly what has brought on the existing state of affairs. In 1840 when the Union, which has created so many difficulties and so much contention and strife, urged on by the Imperial Government was effected, Lower Canada possessed a large preponderance in population and this was the cause of so much grumbling by the French Canadian members, as it unjustly gave Upper Canada too large a share in the management of public affairs and the expenditure of money But it was then urged as an anti revolutionary measure, and mainly carried by outside pressure In the course of a few years however as the fertile West began to be known, and the superiority of climate and soil better appreciated and taken advantage of Upper Canada began to fill up until it first balanced and then surpassed Lower and this fact, coupled with some jealousies and animosities gave rise to the sectional cry of Representation by Population Some parties have even gone so far as to say that a dissolution of the Union, pure and simple, would be preferable to the present state of the case but the folly of this will at once be seen when we look at the geographical position of both provinces, and fancy how Upper Canada would keep good her passage to the sea and Lower her connection with the grain ports of the West. But this very reasonable request for Representation by Population has often been advocated in so partisan a manner, and even the religious professions of the Lower Canadians held as a ground why Upper Canada should be no longer deprived of her fair representation that the question has almost become a matter of conscience with the Roman Catholics and thus the bitterness and acerbity which have attended many of the debates on the subject at various times in the House

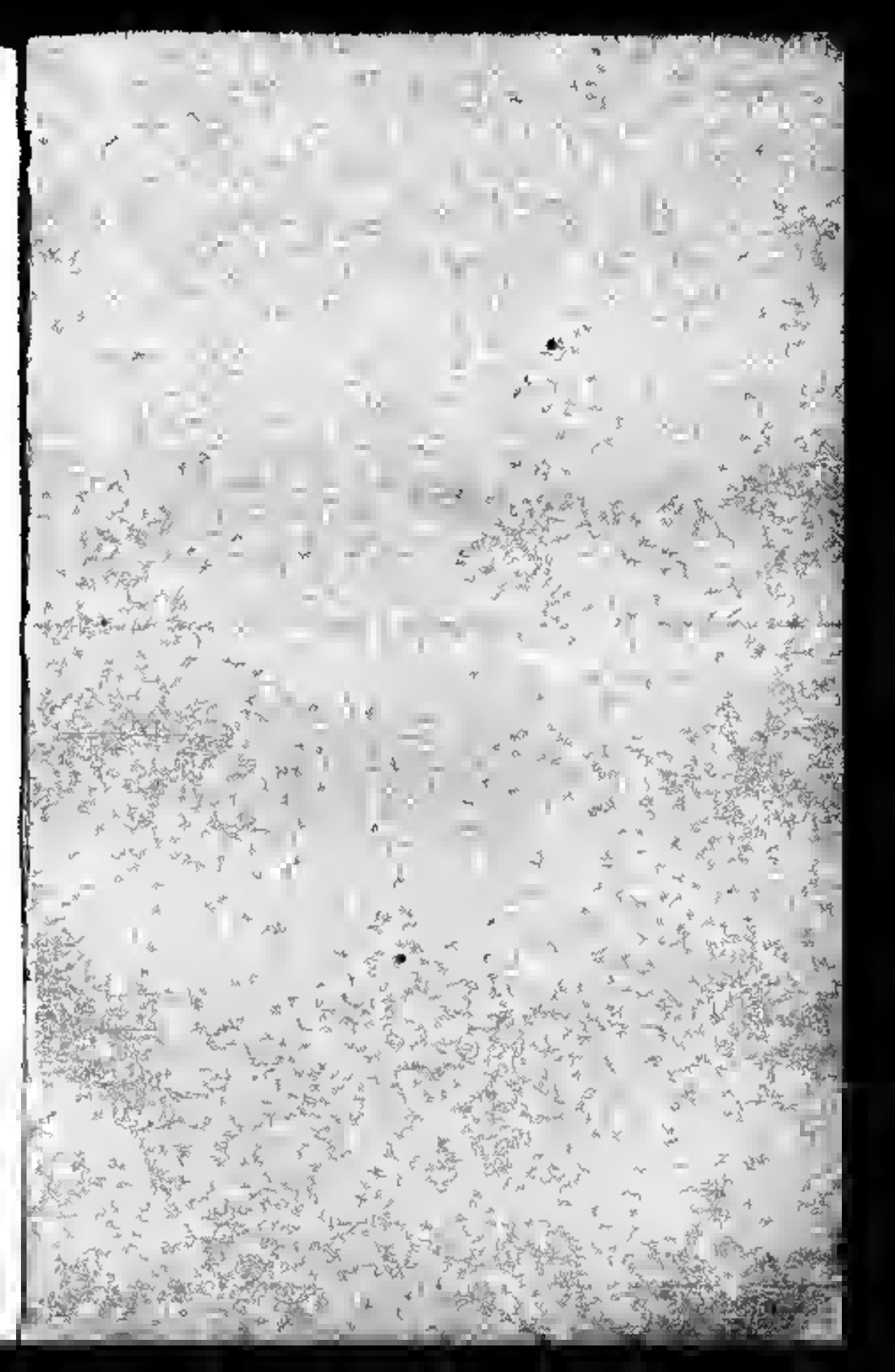
But for the last few years it has been evident, even to the most enthusiastic supporters of the measure, that without some compromise it would be impossible to carry it and even Mr. Brown who may be almost looked upon as the father of the scheme has repeatedly declared that he was ready and willing to accept any compromise which would give this Province her fair share of justice and

declaring at the same time that he had no desire to interfere in any way with the peculiar institutions of our neighbours. It will be remembered that during the last session Mr Brown succeeded in having a committee of 20 leading members of the House of all shades of political opinions appointed to take into consideration our difficulties and report upon a scheme which they deemed most expedient as a permanent basis for final settlement. This committee, which embraced Messrs. Brown, Macdonald, Cartier Galt McDougall and Mowat, the most prominent members of the new Cabinet in the Assembly reported nearly unanimously in favor of a Federal Union of all the British North American Provinces there being but three dissenting voices. Indeed the measure is by no means new; Mr Galt has long advocated it and when the probable results are carefully scanned it will be seen that it is a most important as well as advantageous change for us. To be sure the particulars of the measure are not fully arranged but such is the general desire for it here as well as in the Lower Provinces that we look for a speedy and satisfactory basis. In this plan, of course Upper Canada being the most numerously populated of any of the contracting states, will have the largest representation in the lower branch of the proposed General Legislature, and consequently the heaviest share of influence. Some indeed are found who think that it will positively injure us to be connected with the poorer Provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, etc; but a glance at their balance sheets would at once dispel any such illusions, and even should our material resources give us any great advantage over them yet the inevitable incorporation of the North West Territory and also British Columbia and Vancouver's Island with their vast undeveloped wealth would more than counter-balance any such drawback.

"It must be truly pleasing to any truly loyal Canadian to think that while a fearful civil war is raging among our immediate neighbours, with true devotion to the British Crown we are on the eve of a bloodless revolution the results of which will be to raise Canada from a mere

Province to the chief corner stone in the great British North American nation.

"Such a prospect deserves the most earnest attention of our public men; and while they are earnestly and faithfully working to accomplish it, none but the disappointed and the jealous will try to throw serious obstacles in their way. Their labors should be closely watched, but so long as they sincerely endeavour to carry out their pledges every possible leniency should be shewn and we mistake Upper Canadians if they do not most effectually frown down any attempts at a factious opposition to the first real display of statesmanship which we have seen for years."



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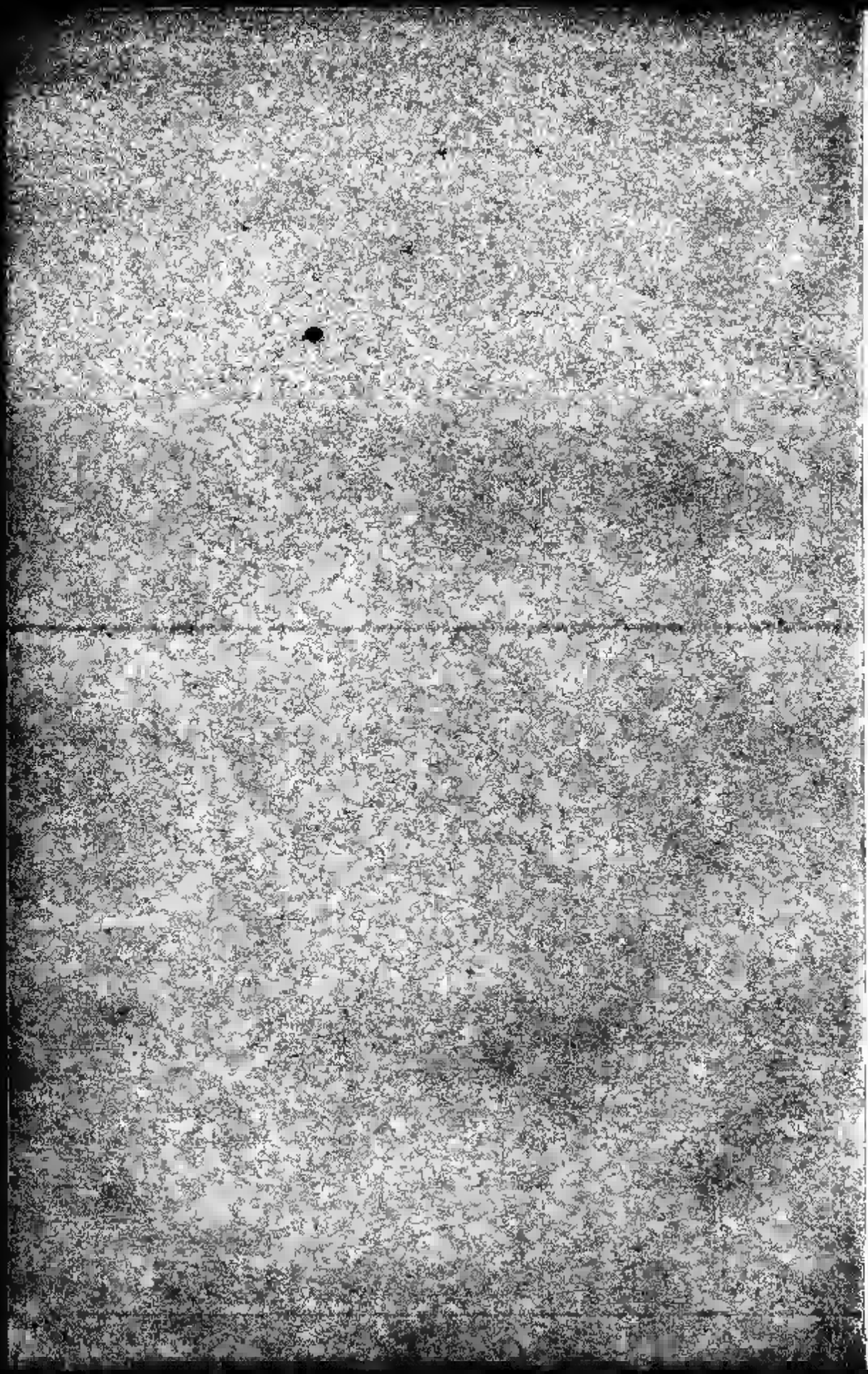

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LENNOX AND ADDINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

PAPERS AND RECORDS

VOL XI

THE NORTH AMERICAN

BEING A SELECTION OF EDITORIALS FROM THE NORTH AMERICAN AN OLD NEWSPAPER AT ONE TIME PUBLISHED IN LENNOX AND ADDINGTON THE FILES OF WHICH WERE PRESENTED TO THE SOCIETY BY HARVARD McMULLEN BROTHER OF THE PUBLISHERS

COMPILED AND EDITED

By WALTER S. HERRINGTON K C F R S.C

NAPANEE ONTARIO
PUBLISHED BY THE SOCIETY
1924

PRINTED AT THE BEAVER OFFICE

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INTRODUCTION

Over a year ago Mr. Harvard McMullen presented to the Society a file of The North American, a weekly newspaper published by his brothers, G. W. and L. B. McMullen, sixty years ago. The first issue appeared on the 24th of June, 1862, and was printed in Napanee in the building opposite the Campbell House, on the south side of Dundas street. In the issue of July 29th, the publishers announced their intention of moving their plant to Newburgh, and frankly gave as their reason for so doing that they expected to secure more patronage by way of advertising and subscriptions than was likely to come their way if they remained in Napanee, where the Standard was already established and was considered one of the best edited papers in Eastern Ontario. They continued the publication in Newburgh until May 12th, 1864, when they shifted their plant to Picton. We have gone carefully through all the issues covering a period of two years, and without any attempt at classification, have selected and now present in chronological order such items as we believe will prove instructive and entertaining to the readers of to-day. At least two generations have come upon the scene since these articles were penned. A perusal of the following pages will revive many memories in the advanced readers, and will give the younger ones a fair insight into the events of the days of their grandparents.

W. S. HERRINGTON.

GLEANINGS FROM

The North American

PUBLISHED IN NEWBURGH IN 1862-3-4

Market Quotations

For purposes of comparison with present day prices we select from the first issue the following quotations from the Napanee market

	$ c.		$ c
Wheat, per bus	80	to	90
Barley, per bus	50	to	55
Butter, per lb	10	to	12
Cheese, per lb	7	to	10
Lard, per lb	8	to	10
Eggs, per doz	7	to	8
Fowls, per pair	25	to	30
Beef, per lb	6	to	8
Ham, per lb	7	to	8
Hay, per ton	8 00	to	10 00

Federal Union

The following selections from the first editorial reflect credit upon the writer, when we bear in mind that Federation was still several years distant.

"We have always considered favorably, as a remedy for existing or prospective difficulties, a change in our North American relations,—which has been but partially brought before the Canadian people, but into which we believe it is the duty of every patriotic man to examine, and an adoption of which, as far as possible, would, in our opinion, prove vastly beneficial to us,—we mean a Federal Union, upon a just basis, of all the British North American Provinces. This course, while it would allow each Colony

untrammelled liberty in the management of its own local affairs, would give us, as a whole, a reputation and national character of which our union with Lower Canada has furnished a mere type. It could not be injurious to Upper Canada since it is the largest of all the sections embraced and consequently would have a full and fair share in the general legislation. We believe it would also do away with the unhappy rivalry which the near balance of religious denominations in the two provinces occasions, and would give an opportunity to the different sects to adopt a liberal course towards others, without fear of permanent injury."

* * * * * *

"It is to be regretted that no action has been taken by the Canadian authorities in reference to developing the resources of the Northwest Territory, and extending the limits of Canada in that direction. We believe this must be done, sooner or later, or the enterprising inhabitants of the neighbouring Union will avail themselves of the discontent already existing in that part of America, to enlarge the boundaries of the great republic."

Defeat of the French in Mexico

It will be remembered that at this time the United States was in the throes of a civil war, with no time nor means to pay any attention to external affairs. Mexico, after countless revolutions, found its treasury empty, and Louis Napoleon, regardless of the Monroe doctrine, had invaded the country ostensibly with the view of collecting the debts owing to the French, but his real object appeared to be the gaining of a foothold on the Western Continent. The following editorial of July 1st foreshadowed what Napoleon subsequently accomplished, the subjugation of the country and the establishment of an Empire, with his tool, Maximilian, brother of Frances Joseph, of Austria, on the throne.

"From accounts received some weeks since, it appears that the French army in Mexico suffered a severe defeat from the native Mexican forces. A later report says that they have capitulated; this lacks confirmation. What effect this defeat will have on the Emperor and his subjects

it is impossible to tell, although reports show a tendency to continue the war Whether they will endeavour to 'retrieve the honor of France', or consent to withdraw an army already reduced by sickness, and probably disconcerted by defeat, and, moreover, engaged in a wicked and useless attempt to subjugate, or, as the French Emperor would have it, occupy Mexico, is not certain The latter is certainly the course which should be pursued, since the object of sending troops to Mexico was merely to enforce the payment of debts, which the Mexicans threatened to repudiate Almost immediately upon the landing of the allied forces at Vera Cruz, the Mexicans complied with the demands and England withdrew her forces , not so France, who appeared to wish some pretext for maintaining her ground in this weak and unhappy country,—so long distracted by internal strife.

"Since the reputation of Mexican soldiers was at so low an ebb, no one for a moment supposed that they would be at all able to resist successfully, the disciplined French veterans The result has, however, dispelled any such illusions, for the Mexicans have met them in the open field and defeated them. We of course, would not for a moment suppose that Mexican soldiers are at all equal to French, under the same circumstances ; but when a man feels that he is fighting unmerited oppression, it has a wondrous effect upon him. Some men, indeed who are the veriest cowards in other positions, will resist with unflinching tenacity any innovation on their freedom

"There can be no mistaking Louis Napoleon's great desire for conquest, but nevertheless we cannot see the propriety of a needless waste of life and money in the conquest of Mexico"

John A. Joins the Sons of Temperance

The press had already begun to keep in close touch with all the movements of John A Macdonald as is apparent from the following personal reference in the issue of July 22nd

"We never felt more pleasure than we do in announcing that the Hon. John A. Macdonald was initiated as a Son of

Temperance on Friday evening last, in the Mechanic's Division, Kingston This course, on the part of the ex-Attorney General, cannot fail to be beneficial to himself and to the many who almost slavishly follow his example '

By August 12th, The North American was comfortably housed in its new quarters on the corner of Main and Concession streets, in the Village of Newburgh, and in the number published upon that date the editor again returns to his favorite theme

To Our Patrons

"The North American in changing locations, changes nothing else, it will still maintain the liberal principles it has previously enunciated, since its object is to raise Canada and every part of it to its proper sphere Whoever may oppose, Canada will yet arrive at what she is now so rapidly approaching, a first class position among earth's powers This consummation can be seriously delayed by internal rivalry or strife The end is certain, but each one should endeavour, as it were, to help fate and share in common with patriotic fellow-countrymen the honor of achieving so great an end.

"Some people, in following the dictates of a contracted self-interest, often delay great national moves We trust that neither the people of this country nor any part of Canada, will oppose aught that makes for the general interests of the community In speaking of Canada, we do not mean merely the strip, as actually surveyed, but the vast territory stretching from Atlantic to Pacific, known as British North America."

American Troubles

Across the border the North was endeavoring to augment its army in the field by drafting into the service an additional 600 000 men The slackers were fleeing into Canada to escape conscription, and while they were unwelcome guests, yet their tales of blood-shed and suffering, bad enough at its best, but no doubt grossly exaggerated, exercised no small influence in moulding public opinion upon this side of the line. The view thus held by Canadians is reflected in the following editorial of August 19th :

"Mr. Lincoln no doubt has endeavoured to take a very careful and safe course in the administration of his affairs, but in doing so, he has regularly avoided striking at the very foundation (slavery) and acknowledged cause of the present contest, which has prolonged the war to the present fearful crisis, when the result appears to be pending as in a balance, so uncertain is it which party will prove themselves victorious

"It has been our desire to see the North gain their point, if they were likely to act as we supposed they would, viz., do away with the curse of their nation We did not wish to have them declare, at once, that all slaves were free, but to give the world to understand that they would do away with the system as soon as possible and practicable, and in a fair and equitable manner This, it has been thought by people well able to judge, was not impossible since they could have remunerated all loyal persons for their slave property at an expense far less than the cost is likely to be of raising and maintaining even 300,000 men for one year This indefinite kind of position taken by the president and his Government has undoubtedly been the means of making many friends for the South in Canada, and also of weakening the sympathies of many, who heretofore expressed themselves as friends of the Union. We know several journals that have always been warm friends of the Federals that are lately moderating very much in their tone, and are apparently dissatisfied with the course of the Government. This betokens a change"

American Visitors

This forcibly reminds us of the fact that this fratricidal struggle had been under way a long time before the slaves were actually emancipated Is it possible that it might have been avoided if the plan of compensation suggested by the editor had been adopted? In the next issue, under the above heading, he returns to the subject, and in language with no uncertain sound, roundly scores those undesirable guests.

"We are just now well favored with a large access to our population in the persons of Americans, who have

"skedaddled" to avoid the draft. As a general rule we are among the first to welcome parties from the other side of the line. They are usually among the first benefactors of Canada, since their energetic business habits have a favorable effect upon our population, and they are usually the first to conduct or encourage any branch of trade or industry. With the present party, however, we can show no friendship, they have deserted their country in her hour of greatest trial, when the tendons of her vast frame are stretched to the utmost, and every moment threatens a final overthrow. They have basely withdrawn from their native home rather than obey the call to duty, and should success attend her efforts, perhaps none would shout more lustily, or more highly laud, the bravery of 'our' heroes than these patriotic citizens. We believe that with the Botany Bay convict they might say —

'True patriots, we, for be it understood,
We leave our country for our country's good'

"In whatever direction the sympathies of Canadians may lie, we believe they should spurn any approaches on the part of those who are willing while everything prospers, to profit out of their country, and upon the first approach of danger, disgracefully turn their backs with apparently no more feeling than they would go through an ordinary every-day transaction."

Church Dedication

The members of Trinity Church, Napanee, will be especially interested in the report of the dedication of the old stone church, which was torn down in 1906 to make room for the present handsome structure erected upon its site. This report appeared in the issue of September 10th, 1862.

"The dedicatory services connected with the opening of the new W. M. church in the Village of Napanee, took place on Sunday last, as announced by handbills and otherwise. This church, which has just been completed, is a credit to the society and the place. It has been built at an expense, we understand, of $8,000.00, and it can be denominated a cheap building. The sermons were preached

by the Rev. Dr. Wood, President of the Conference, at 10 30 a.m., Rev. John Black, at 3 p.m., and the Rev. Dr. Nelles, Principal of Victoria College, at 7 p.m. The Reverend gentlemen fully sustained their former reputation, and everything passed off creditably. The success of the choir especially elicited approbation, and Dr. West, at the close, took occasion, in a very neat manner, to bestow a handsome and we believe, a well deserved compliment on the singers. We understand that the large attendance produced as it should, a large collection, which as is generally the case, was a relief to the steward. There was a bazaar Monday and Tuesday, and also a teameeting on Tuesday evening, of the result we have not heard.

"There will be preaching at the same hours next Sabbath by the following ministers: Rev. George Young, morning and evening, and the Rev. W. H. Poole, of this place, in the afternoon. If the services are as interesting as on last Sabbath, we can only recommend our friends to go, and if they go we would remind them that churches cost money."

Emancipation

That the war to the South was getting upon the nerves of Canadians is evident from the fact that the news columns were filled with items from the different fronts, and the editor frequently summed up the situation as in the following editorial of September 10th:

"The long wished and prayed for proclamation by President Lincoln seems likely to be not much longer delayed. The whole pressure of the Republican journals and the chief mouth-pieces of the party, are being brought to bear to accomplish this end, as a final means of saving the great, but tottering Union. No person doubts that such a proclamation will be issued, and it is now generally thought that the sooner it appears the better. Being steady, and we believe consistent, opponents of slavery, we have looked forward to some crisis in the war when it would become a military necessity to free the slaves and thus speedily erase that foul blot from the national American character. We have steadily, since the war began,

wished for success for the Federal party. We did this, not out of admiration for the principal parties, who are considered exponents of Northern views for to a majority of them, we are happy to take exception nor are we actuated by any enthusiastic admiration of the manner in which matters have been conducted since the war began, but we believe that in the great mass of the community at the North there exists a sincere desire to free their land from the great evil that has from its very origin, cursed it. How different with the South, whose professed desire is to perpetuate this very system They who have always ruled the national councils, as soon as they perceived that the intelligence of the North was awaking to the infamy of the system, at once to perpetuate their horrible dealings in flesh and blood, resolved to cap the climax by destroying the very nation that had fostered and fed them

"In thus declaiming against the South, we would not be understood to acquit the North as guiltless; many parties in that section have long, either openly or in an indirect manner, encouraged the system of human bondage, while a large class have so totally forgotten everything like a moral responsibility, that they have achieved for their country, we cannot but think with partial justice, the appellation of a 'Nation without God'."

Resuming the subject in his issue of October 1st, the Editor continues his comments:

"It is a mighty step in the right direction and should enlist the sympathy of the entire civilized world After being trodden under an iron-heeled despotism for two hundred years, the wronged African is to have his rights, he is henceforth to be numbered among men instead of brutes, for the history of slavery would seem to assign to him a position among the irrational and irresponsible portion of creation The civilized portion of the community cannot but applaud this bold humane view of the President, and it will awaken a sympathetic chord in their nature, for that portion of the nation loyal to the old constitution What will become of the slaves is asked on one hand Were it in our province to answer, we would say at once, that at present many are needed for the war, and when that is

over, all, and more than all, are required to raise 'King Cotton' on the Southern plantations As free men, their labor will be to more purpose than when their lives were devoid of aim, and we indulge the hope, that as free men, they will restore the soil, which as slaves, their labor tended to degenerate"

Yates' Hotel

Abel Yates, well known to all of the old residents of Napanee, sought the patronage by the following advertisement :

"Yates' Hotel

"Corner of Dundas and East Streets, Napanee, C W

Ministers of all denominations half fare.

Abel Yates,

Late of The Campbell House, Proprietor."

Separation of Lennox and Addington from Frontenac

In the issue of February 4th, 1863, we see the spark that set fire to the ambitious desire of Lennox and Addington to sever connection with Frontenac and become a separate county Sidney Warner, Reeve of Ernesttown, was a candidate for the Wardenship of the then United Counties of Frontenac, Lennox and Addington, but was defeated by a man of inferior ability from Frontenac The North American denounced in good round terms the selfishness of the representatives from Frontenac We are not at all surprised therefore to find the following in the next issue .

"At a meeting held yesterday afternoon, at the Town Hall, Napanee, of the Reeves of Lennox and Addington, it was carried that they petition the Governor-in Council for a separation of these United Counties The vote was unanimous Fuller particulars next week."

Poland

The editor by no means limited his editorial observations to purely local affairs. He views with equanimity the threatening war clouds in Europe and enlightens his readers by a well written article on March 18th, 1863 :

"It is very gratifying to hear every moment of our lives some new effort for human liberty, and while our hearts bleed at the inevitable destruction of life, we nevertheless, realize that such things must be, and if freedom cannot be achieved in any way but by war, then war must come Poland has earned a classic name in our ears by the noble stand taken in defense of liberty under patriotic leaders against the united power of Russia, Prussia and Austria.

"She has been for years ground under the iron heel of Russia, and we mistake the liberal aspirations of our age if she is longer crushed to the earth The tone of English statesmen is adverse to any interference, unless on behalf of the Poles, and France occupies the same position We only find the would-be autocrat of Prussia in opposition to an immense majority of the Popular Representatives, openly intriguing on behalf of his historical Russia.

"We have always admired the course of the present Emperor of Russia in pushing to a successful end his vast schemes for liberation and we looked for the display of generous self-denial on his part in allowing the Poles, whose very nature and temperament are so Anti-Russian, to exercise the right of self-government It may be that he will yet see his error in thus contending against the prevailing notions of the day and the undoubtedly ascendant popular sympathy.

"It must be remembered that Poland at one time was not the oppressed nationality she now is, at one time Poland was the foremost defender of Christianity in Eastern Europe against the inroads of the Turkish and Tartar Barbarians and a feeling of ordinary humanity should prompt us to wish them restored to the position they once held We do not believe in encouraging acts of hostility against existing rules for trivial reasons, but we look upon this outbreak in Poland as a spontaneous and universal uprising of an oppressed people against laws adverse to their nature and against the rule of a people whose sympathies, desires, education, and tendencies are almost the antipodes of their own Their request was reasonable It was not granted, and they have availed themselves of

arms to sanction their claim so far they maintain the ascendant May they succeed"

The Examination at the Academy.

In the issue of April 8th is an extended report of the examination at the Newburgh Academy, conducted orally in the old fashioned style. The examination extended over three days, and instead of being in private as at present, all the ratepayers were invited to come and witness the proceedings

"The system pursued at the examination was to bring the scholars of all the rooms into one room and thereby allow the spectators to hear the recitations of every class; this plan entails considerable delay, and we can scarcely believe that the advantage it gives visitors counteracts the long time it takes

"The classes in Geometry, Trigonometry, French and Algebra acquitted themselves very creditably in their respective branches. The scholars of the common school department, also, by their examinations, paid a high compliment to their teachers. There is one fault, however, which it is impossible to remedy when dealing with a number of small children, that is the confusion attendant on the presence, in one room, of 200 or 300 people, which, added to the low tone of small scholars, makes the otherwise interesting examinations exceedingly unsatisfactory"

The late John D Ham was chairman of the School Board, and among the prize winners we note the following 1st in Latin, James H Madden, now Judge of the County Court; 1st in Arithmetic, Matthew Ryan, now deceased, late Warden of the County, and 2nd in Reading, W P Deroche, Local Registrar of the Supreme Court.

Separation of the Counties

The meeting of the Reeves held in Napanee on February 10th, had already borne fruit. All the preliminaries to the introduction of a bill providing for the separation of the counties had been completed The arguments in favor of separation were very neatly summed up in a leading article of April 15th, from which we quote a part only:

"The population of the three counties and the city was, according to the last census, 66,092, and is probably now not less than 75,000, of which about 30,000 are in Lennox and Addington, a fully sufficient number for independent municipal support. We can easily understand the opposition which is given to the separation project by the members of the County Council from Frontenac, who derive so much benefit from their connection in a monetary line with our county. While there is ample population to justify separation, there are also many other reasons which should impel us to take the step. When the population was thin, and the people poor, there was less necessity for them to leave their homes often for the county capital and consequently less inconvenience experienced by it being at a distance; but now, with new townships constantly opening in the rear and increasing demand for some centre or mart in our immediate vicinity, where the ordinary business of the county can be transacted without the disagreeable necessity of a tedious jaunt to Kingston, we should not be longer deprived of our rights. It has long been an established rule that the senior county allows without protest, the division when the wishes of the junior are known to be inclined in that direction, and after the decisive vote at Napanee last February, we can interpret the course pursued at Kingston by Mr. Flanigan and others, as nothing but a selfish clinging to the old regime against all considerations of general interest.

"In the discussions which will take place upon the County Town, the question will be placed fairly upon its merits and that the people of the different townships will weigh well the consequences of their vote, they should consult their own and the general convenience in the dispatch of the County business, and we believe that the inconvenience they have suffered heretofore will teach them a lesson in bringing it as near their homes as they can. Newburgh will raise no false issues, all they want is a fair and just expression of public opinion on this point and they consider their cause safe. We do not blame parties in Napanee working all they can for their village, as we assuredly shall for ours, but if the people of the larger

County, Addington, remain but true to their interests, we have no fear of the result. When the Bill appears we will keep our readers posted on this important subject.

"We hope that the general feeling in favor of a popular vote will prevent the Reeves, at their meeting on Saturday next, from taking the settlement of this matter, which they have no right to do, out of the hands of its rightful arbiters, the people."

A new question, however, had arisen—that of the County Town, and The North American left no doubt where it stood upon that question. There were four claimants in the field, Napanee, Newburgh, Bath and Tamworth. It was a foregone conclusion that neither Bath nor Tamworth could secure the prize, but both remained in the field until a vote was taken at a meeting of the Reeves in Napanee on April 11th, when Napanee secured a majority of the votes. Newburgh was not satisfied with this verdict and contended that so important a question as the selection of a County Town should be determined by a vote of the ratepayers. Douglas Hooper was the representative of the County in the Legislative Assembly, and being a Camden man he naturally favored Newburgh's claims. Richard Cartwright, afterwards Sir Richard, was the largest property owner in Napanee, and he used all of his influence for Napanee. As he was a prospective candidate at the next election, it will be readily seen that the County Town problem was likely to make itself felt at that election. Canada then embraced only two provinces, Upper and Lower Canada, and the Legislative Assembly met at Quebec. A Coalition Government had been having a hard time of it and went down under a vote of want of confidence moved by John A. Macdonald, the member for Kingston, afterwards Sir John. The editor of The North American leaves no doubt as to his political leanings in the following editorial:—

The Want of Confidence Vote

"The truce given by the opposition is over, and war is really in vogue in the Legislature. On Friday last the Hon. John A. Macdonald moved a direct vote of want of

confidence in the administration, which of course brings matters to a direct issue We have not learned the fate of the measure, but soon will, the probabilities are that it will be lost by a narrow majority, but on the other hand it may possibly carry

"In making his speech, the member for Kingston indulged in the usual amount of bombast and humbug, which characterizes his efforts He lost sight of his own chequered political life, his own directly opposite votes on the Representation Question, his change of opinion on the Clergy Reserve Secularization and accused the present holders of the Treasury benches with inconsistency Such a charge coming from such a source, must be considered, by all impartial hearers as a mere claptrap cry, only made for the sake of regaining the coveted places on the other side of the House."

The County Town Again

Mr Douglas Hooper, the member for Lennox and Addington, was a Conservative The Editor of The North American was a Reformer, but as Mr Cartwright was at that time a Conservative also, there was no course open to the Reform editor but to support the man in favor of Newburgh as the County Town, and this he proceeds to do as appears from the following editorial :

"We have much pleasure in notifying our readers that Mr Hooper, last week, gave notice of a Bill to allow the ratepayers of Lennox and Addington to choose their own County Town. This course, on the part of the County member, is highly commendable as it refers the whole matter to the rightful arbitars, the people, although it may suit our friends in Napanee, who fondly but illusively, imagined the whole matter settled by the Reeves

"However much local feeling may be brought to bear against Mr Hooper in the course he has taken, we firmly believe that he will be sustained by the general good sense of the County, and that, on the whole he will gain in popular estimation by so just a course

"We have to praise the well-timed remarks of our contemporary, The Standard, last week in reference to the

claims of Napanee No one pretends that Napanee has not an advantage over us in being possessed of water and railway communications, but that does not argue that the people of the County will be convenienced more by going to Napanee than Newburgh to do County business, and it will be well for our people to understand the wire pulling that will be resorted to by less conscientious advocates of Napanee than our friends of The Standard "

The American War

The election of 1863 was one of the most bitter in the history of our country, yet the American war was the all-absorbing topic of conversation and in the minds of some had a direct bearing upon the campaign There were grave fears that England might be involved The press of all shades of politics published columns of news and followed the movements of the opposing forces with harrowing tales of slaughter and suffering Time and again the editor expresses his abhorrence of the terrible conflicts The following is from the issue of May 6th :

"This desolating war still continues with as little prospect as ever of termination Its effect on the trade of the whole world is now keenly felt and so clamorous is public opinion against its continuance that a move of some kind towards a finality will have to be taken by one or another of the contending parties, or by some foreign power Gen Hooker has commenced an 'On to Richmond' march, with what success remains to be seen It may be that the acknowledged exhaustion of the South will enable him to make an easy capture of that now famous city and it is also possible that he will meet the disastrous fate of McDowell, McClellan and Burnside

"We can never have any sympathy with the Confederate States in the move they have made They have defended themselves gallantly, it is true, but the rotten principle of slavery, upon which their Government is founded, is a bar no true British subject can cross We heartily wish their defeat, but if that is not soon accomplished, no considerations should further prolong the war It has caused an amount of suffering scarcely ever before

equalled, it has deranged the commerce, not only of our own land, but of the entire civilized world, and in the name of humanity should soon be ended"

The Election

The candidates were soon in the field for the election and ranged themselves under three banners: The Reformers, The Liberal Conservatives, and the old die-hard Conservatives under the leadership of Galt, Cartier and John A Macdonald. The latter party was given the rather unsavory title of The Corruptionists. Cartwright and Hooper, the candidates for Lennox and Addington, both claimed to be Liberal Conservatives. This was Mr Cartwright's first entry into political life and his youth and inexperience were urged as reasons for not supporting his candidature. In reading their respective addresses to the electors there appears to be little to choose between them. Both were for retrenchment and economy, as indeed all candidates profess to be and in all probability will so continue to the end of time, or so long as legislators are elected by popular vote. Both candidates were for Representation by Population and claimed that Upper Canada did not have its fair proportion of members in the Legislature. No candidate in Upper Canada could hope to be elected without this plank in his platform. Both were for placing the militia on a sounder footing, and Mr. Cartwright went so far as to say "causes over which we can exercise no control may at any instant involve us in a war of the most desperate character"

That he was shaping his canvass so that he might consistently follow either of the old time parties in the house might reasonably be inferred from the following extract from his address

"I believe the country to be in such peril that it becomes all good citizens, Conservative or Reformer, to lay aside party disputes and stand together firmly, at least till this danger be overpast. And I may urge this the more reasonably because I believe I am justified in saying that almost all the great questions which formerly divided those parties have been peacably adjusted and, that if at this juncture

any important differences can be said to exist between them, it lies chiefly in this,—that the Reform party perceive perhaps the most clearly, the vital importance of retrenching and adjusting our finances, while the Conservatives on the other hand, are most alive to the quite as urgent necessity of preparing for the war storm, which any hour may discharge itself on our head"

The Election Candidates

The views of the respective candidates were well known upon the question of the County Town, but both took good care not to make any reference to it in their addresses to the electors. The personal merits, however, were not overlooked. Mr. Cartwright represented himself as a very large property owner with great financial interests at stake in the riding and prided himself in being born in the riding, and descended from U. E. L. parents, thinking perhaps thereby to score a slight advantage over his opponent, who was born in Scotland and came to Canada when a mere child and was brought up in Lower Canada. Mr. Hooper retorted that his property holdings were not so large as those of Mr. Cartwright, yet what he had he had earned by hard labor and that his knowledge of the wants and necessities of a farming community was better than that of the other candidate, who had never experienced the hardships necessary to obtain a livelihood by manual labor. After the campaign was well under way, the Reformers held a rather stormy meeting at Newburgh with the result that they concluded that it was too late to put a candidate in the field. This seemed quite satisfactory to The North American, whose editor would have been placed in an awkward position if his political party had seen fit to nominate a candidate. He was quite sincere in the following editorial:

'We are glad that this conclusion was arrived at, for although we would very much like to see this county represented by a good moderate Reformer, yet in the present juncture, as we stated last week, we believe it very imprudent for a third man to enter the field. for our part, being satisfied with Mr. Hooper's past course, and also that

if re-elected he will be as consistent, we shall do all we can, in a lawful manner, to ensure his election."

"The Supplementary Estimates"

The editor essayed at times to be facetious. We leave the reader to form his own opinion of his success along this line.

"By special favor we have received the following list of supplementary estimates to be proposed to the House shortly.

Salary of a compositor from the "Grumbler" office, to teach the Hon. Mr. Cameron, the new printer, his new business	$ 1000 00
Printer's devil to assist	500 00
To provide a new set of brains for Mr Cauchon	1 00
Repairs to Mr Ryerson's political morality	20 00
To purchase some of Mr Dunkin's self-conceit for Mr Dorion	10 00
For a bag to shake up J. A. Macdonald and George Brown together with a view of seeing which will be the first to emerge	50
To print 500 copies of Mr Wright's orations for general circulation, say	2 00
To procure a foreign mission or something to get rid of Mr Carter	50 00
For a copy of Joe Miller for Mr Rymal	50
To purchase bacon, eggs and other palatable means of sustinence for the pupils of the U. C College	500 00
To pay Dr Ryerson's expenses to Nova Zembla	10 00
For a dancing master to instruct Messrs. Benjamin and Baxter, in the sailor's hornpipe	10 00
To furnish Godley, the Court Jesterfield, with a few grains of common sense	10
To furnish paper pellets for members to throw at each other when in committee of the whole	10000 00
For an interpreter to explain Isaac Buchanan's speech	1 00

For obtaining a facsimile of Isaac Buchanan's laugh to send to the next World's Fair, as one of Canada's greatest curiosities 100 00

The Election

To those of us who have had opportunities of witnessing the entire absence of even friendly relations between Sir John A. Macdonald and Sir Richard Cartwright, it is inconceivable that at one time these two men were so intimately associated in politics that the latter found it necessary to deny the charge brought against him that he was dominated by John A. It is a fact, however, that they were very intimate, both socially and politically, and on nomination day Mr. Cartwright in referring to a current report, declared that he "was not under the thumb of John A. Macdonald". The election took place on the 17th and 18th of June, and Cartwright was returned by a majority of 285. The Reformers, under the leadership of John Sandfield Macdonald in Upper Canada and A. A. Dorion in Lower Canada, carried the country by a fair majority. In Lennox the question of the County Town had a marked effect, particularly in Napanee, North Fredericksburgh, Newburgh and Camden, as will be seen from the following returns:

	Cartwright	Hooper
Napanee	202	52
North Fredericksburgh	190	59
Newburgh	12	131
Camden	334	560

Throughout the rest of the county the Conservatives appear to have divided their votes, while the majority of the Reformers voted for Cartwright, probably because he was a young man of means with no political sins to answer for, while Hooper had a Conservative record in the House with slim chances of ever making a Reformer out of him. The North American declared itself disappointed in the result, but upon the whole took the defeat rather gracefully and concluded its leading editorial upon the election as follows:

"We are yet to be convinced that the Reformers will not regret the vote they have this time given, and that when it is too late to remedy it as it is, Mr Cartwright is now member elect for this county, and as such must act as our representative We wait the development of his course with anxiety, only hoping, but we confess against hope, that his course on all questions will be as liberal as his ardent admirers anticipate If he gives a support to the present Government in opposition to his friend, John A, he will be a political curiosity such as is not often found in the ranks to which he belongs, more especially in the celebroted 'Liberal' city of Kingston."

The New Member

The new parliament met on August 13th, and upon the first vote it was found that the government had a majority of only eight or ten One of the first acts of the Ministry was to pass an order-in-council constituting Napanee the County Town of the new County of Lennox and Addington, as Mr Hooper during the last session of the previous parliament had secured the passage of a bill separating the counties, and the only necessary step remaining to enable the new county to proceed to set its house in order was the naming of the County Town For this Mr Cartwright got the blame and was charged with a violation of his pre-election pledge that he would not favor the naming of the County Town by the government if a majority of the rate-payers petitioned for having it determined by a popular vote No such petition had been presented, but The North American claimed that one was being circulated to the knowledge of the member, and that his action was premature and calculated to circumvent the will of the electors. As a matter of fact a petition had been forwarded to the Government, asking for delay, and also a counter petition praying that the proclamation do issue at once putting the act of separation into force and naming the County Town, and while Mr Cartwright had stated upon the hustings that he would not oppose having a vote taken upon the question there is no evidence that he was responsible for the issuing of the proclamation There is every reason to

believe that Stevenson, afterwards the Honourable John Stevenson, speaker of the first parliament of the Province of Ontario, and who was named in the proclamation as the first Warden, was the person responsible for securing the passing of the Order-in-Council that put an end to the controversy that had already lasted too long. Moreover, we have no reason to believe that Mr. Cartwright was persona grata with the government as he voted steadily against it, for which The North American called him to task:

"What say Reformers now, we wonder? Their pet candidate and liberal minded representative has scarcely come up to the political mark they set for him. Mr. Cartwright, many of them said, while the election was going on, was pledged to them even personally to give a generous support to the present government and to judge them entirely by their measures. We ourselves heard him say that he would not vote want of confidence in them at the opening of the session but would give them a fair trial. It may be well asked how has he fulfilled those pledges? He gave his vote for Mr. Wallbridge, and since then has steadily voted against the government and on the first opportunity declaring by his vote, for his speeches say nothing, that he had no confidence in the administration."

John A. Macdonald

A week after Mr. Cartwright had been declared elected the wrath of the editor appears to have subsided so far as the local election was concerned. He was a Reformer at heart, although for local reasons he did all he could to secure the return of Mr. Hooper. The Reformers claimed seventy-three seats in the House and accorded to the opposition fifty-one, and the independents six. In his pre-election notices he had the three classes, Reformers, Corruptionists and Liberal-Conservatives, but in summing up the returns after the election, he put John A. back in the Conservative fold, and although he had backed a Conservative himself with all the force he could command, he could not resist quoting with approval the following from The Globe:

"Will Mr John A Macdonald please come to the rescue and tell the poor disconsolates who still cling to his coat-tails, what he will do? He has the reputation of being an eminently ingenious man, and, as one of his enthusiastic supporters once described him, he is a cat with nine lives It is this belief which supports his admirers now amid all their afflictions they cling to it as drowning men to straws They believe that he has yet some dodge in reserve, some double-shuffle trick, some nicely pre-arranged distribution of the cards In fact, not a few rather incline to think that, for some reason or other,—to a comprehension of which they do not pretend,—he likes the present look of affairs. But unless he makes haste, they will lose all confidence and pitch him overboard We, who are perfectly impartial, can afford to wait, but they cannot. As it appears to us, for all his boasted generalship, he has brought his party to about as low an ebb as the most bungling political leader could possibly do Mr Cartier can yet bring up a compact phalanx. Not so large as it once was, yet one of which he may boast However unworthy, he has at least manoeuvred so as to gain the confidence of his countrymen. John Alexander has manoeuvred and lost His chief captains have been cut off Sergeant John Hillyard Cameron it is true, remains and may give some strength, but with that exception the trains are gone No longer can he, with all his effrontery pretend that he is able to meet his Lower Canadian allies upon equal terms We do not care to be thought curious, but we would like to know what excuse he has to offer to Monsieur Cartier for the results which have followed that once much bepraised, but now sadly be-cursed non-confidence motion of his It will require a tremendous display of trickery on his part, once more to redeem his character"

Neither The Globe nor the editor of The North American proved to be very good prophets, for within twelve months both papers had a demonstration that all of the nine lives of John A were not yet exhausted, and were called upon to chronicle the fact that he had not been pitched overboard, but was received into a new Coalition

Government side by side with the cherished political idols of The Globe

One would hardly recognize Sir Richard Cartwright as the same individual as is referred in the following editorial note of September 2nd

'Mr Cartwright has found his natural channel, fossil Conservatism, and while this country sends him to Parliament he will be found in the same place His speech on the defences of the Province, as quoted in the Morning Chronicle is a rehash of his speeches about the county, where he portrayed the danger of an aggressive war by the Americans, and the necessity of immediate and full preparation for it"

The House had not been in session three weeks before trouble arose in the government ranks in readjusting the portfolios and the majority was reduced to two The North American sounded the note of warning, and asked "Is not some reconstruction possible?'

The Provisional Council of the County of Lennox and Addington

The provisional council was not long in assuming the duties of their new offices. The following is from the issue of September 16th

"The first meeting of the Provisional Council was held on Thursday last, as directed by the Governor's Proclamation. All the Reeves and Deputies were present, Mr Stevenson occupying the chair Mr Warner moved the appointment of Mr Stevenson as Provisional Warden, and it was carried without opposition Wm. V. Detlor, Esq., was appointed County Clerk, and Edmund Hooper, Esq., County Treasurer An appropriation of $20,000 was voted for County Buildings and the Council meets again in October to select a site for the Court House and Jail An Executive Committee was appointed, consisting of Messrs Stevenson, Warner Ham, Lapum, Perry, Sexsmith and J. J. Watson."

Review of 1863

We find very little more worthy of reproduction until

the first number of 1864. Among his other reviews, the editor sums up the position in Europe as follows:

"The year that has passed, has been a momentous one in the world's history, not so much perhaps, for the great revolution it has effected, as for the important moves, political and otherwise originating with it, which are soon destined to have a lasting and important bearing on the future of our history. In the great political arena, from which, as a colony, we are almost entirely excluded, we find a general restlessness which is a sure forerunner of some important change. Russia, whose growth of late has been amazing, has been and still is in serious trouble with her Polish subjects, and while from the emancipation edict and other liberal proclivities, we were lead to expect a humane and forbearing course from her, we must yet admit that the cruel Scythian spirit is still predominant and the liberal minds of the world are earnestly wishing that these revolutionists may yet succeed in effecting a dismemberment of the Empire.

"The one man in Europe towards whom all seem to cast their eyes when trouble is brewing, Napoleon, is now apparently in as much of a quandary as any who direct their steps after his leadership. He is generally suspected and although possessed of immense power, he is nevertheless pampered with conflicting interests and circumstances which prevent him in some manner from pursuing all the nefarious schemes he may propose.

"When we cross the ocean we reach a struggle which now almost engrosses the attention of the world, the American Civil War. The same noble and determined course of the North to put down slavery, and the same courageous but misdirected efforts of the South to maintain it, continue. The struggle has scarcely abated, but is confined to a more limited ground than formerly. Gradually wrong is yielding to right, and although the death struggle may be hard, yet to death this monstrous evil is doomed, and sooner or later dissolution must inevitably take place."

War in Europe

In the issue of January 20th, 1864, there appeared the following forecast, which eventually proved all too true

"The state of affairs in Europe as seen by the latest intelligence received, beare every indication of war, Germany having already made advances towards the Danes, but as yet no collision or struggle has taken place, nevertheless the appearances of an amicable arrangement and settlement of the existing difficulties, other than by the shedding of blood seems to be entirely beyond the hopes of any. The Danish people are apparently much in favor of war and the sympathy they expect and receive from England, coupled with the support they would undoubtedly get from their brother of Sweden and Norway, do much towards nerving them to a bold resistance of any intrusion upon their rights as a nation. The grasping avaricious character of the French Emperor is here again very apparent, his long pent up desire of extending his empire to the shores of the Rhine is now looking out and becoming more visible as he imagines his chances of success better"

The Ministry, Will It Live ?

Europe was threatened with a devastating war involving several countries, the United States was engaged in a bloody fratricidal struggle. Mexico had been subjugated by France and a deputation was tendering the crown of the new empire on this continent to Archduke Maximilian of Austria. We in Canada were not free from trouble. The tenure of the new government was becoming more precarious day by day, and no easy solution of the difficulty seemed to be forthcoming. In the issue of February 10th, the editor laments the unsettled condition of affairs :

"This is now an everyday question, and anxious knots of amateur politicians are daily gathered about every street corner, giving the question a coloring according to their individual feelings or prejudice. The present Reform Government, it is well known, have worked their way under circumstances of extreme difficulty and the political horizon is as much clouded now as ever. They, last session, met

Parliament after a General Election with only a majority of 2 or 3 votes, and by an unexampled attendance of members, carried through the business and retained office.

"Perhaps none have been better pleased than ourselves with many acts of the present administration and on numerous occasions we have unhesitatingly declared our confidence in its integrity and honesty. It has done much towards reducing the expense of Government and placing us on a good financial footing, but we believe there are few who desire to see the scenes of last session enacted over again. Such political canvassing and coaxing, such tremendous exertions of the OUTS to get IN, and the INS to stay IN were never before seen, and during such seasons as this the business of the country must be neglected. Men who should devote their undivided attention to the best interests of their constituents waste valuable time in endeavours to influence the Goddess of Fortune to favor the one or the other political party with which they are identified. Such has been, almost without interruption, the position of affairs since the accession to power of the present administration, and is now becoming a grave question whether it should last longer."

The New County Council

"Now that the Municipal elections are over, we suppose that there will be no delay in erecting the buildings necessary for county purposes so that we may soon become a totally distinct county without any reference at all to the senior county of Frontenac. It is not to be denied that the people of Newburgh felt much chagrined and disappointed at losing the County Town, without any appeal to a popular vote, but that question is gone and no amount of agitation would now be likely to have the least effect on the matter, and since one question is settled, by what means it is not our province to herald. It now becomes the duty of every man to aim to burden the county as little as possible with a county debt, in this the beginning of our career. In the building of the Court House in Kingston, a vast amount of money was levied and an expenditure indulged in that should be a timely warning to our local legislators. In a

final settlement with Frontenac, which must soon take place, we will experience the dire effects of this extravagance for it will be all but impossible to get anything like an adequate value for the immense pile of buildings owned by the counties. If the matter is managed judiciously, we may by the gift of the county property, begin life nearly clear from encumbrance, save what is expended in our own affairs.

"The bitter feeling in Frontenac against the separation will be apt to create a great difficulty in the way of an amicable settlement of the county business, as we may be sure they will carefully guard anything that will directly or indirectly, militate against their local interests. If, however, anything imprudent is done, on our own ground we will have our own representatives to blame, and with the store of past experience to teach them, any error on their part will be almost inexcusable. The county needs good substantial buildings and they are not able to pay too high a price for them, and we believe there is hardly a member of the county council who will not faithfully work for the accomplishment of so desirable an end."

From the issue of February 17th, we learn that the provisional council for Lennox and Addington had met and transacted a good deal of important business, including the adoption of plans for a new court house and gaol, and the advertising for tenders for their erection. The editor seemed to have the faculty of correctly sizing up the situation in foreign countries. In one editorial he laments the threatening war cloud in Europe. Germany had delivered a bullying ultimatum to Denmark demanding the evacuation of Schleswig. Denmark relying upon the probability of England intervening and the sympathy of France, Sweden, Italy and Russia, was not disposed to submit. Prussia and Austria, on the other hand, backed up Germany. Archduke Maximilian could not refuse the tempting offer of the crown of the new Empire of Mexico, and The North American with a true prophetic genius, warns him of his probable fate in the following brief editorial:

"Maximilian has finally accepted the Crown of Mexico

and will soon sail for his new dominions. Whether Napoleon's policy of placing a Prince on a Mexican throne will be as satisfactory as he hoped is yet to be seen Mexico is one of the most thoroughly unreliable of all nationalities, and it will be little short of a miracle if the new Emperor makes any better headway than the different presidents have in the last twelve or thirteen years."

As The North American did not continue publication to chronicle the accuracy of its prediction, we might here mention that the ill-advised Archduke did not prove to be an exception to the rule that the average reign of the Mexican rulers at that time was about two years, and the reign generally terminated in banishment or execution Maximilian was hurled from the throne by the Republican forces and shot at Queretaro on June 19th, 1867.

From the latter part of February, 1864 there was no lack of material to engage the editor's pen and he took full advantage of it all, and besides publishing copious reports of the events of the day he gave his readers the benefit of his views upon the various topics War had broken out in Europe and Parliament was again in session

War

"Our readers will observe by the telegraphic reports in another column, to which we have devoted a large space, that war has already commenced in Europe, but as yet we have no very definite news as to the result, the Germans evidently keeping back the news, although, while the Danes are single handed, there can be but little doubt of the finale England is just now in a neutral position, much to the chagrin of Denmark, but we scarcely think she will maintain this attitude when the integrity of Denmark is threatened However, we cannot even imagine any peaceable termination to the present complications."

How like the comments of the press when the news of the outbreak of the Great War first reached us !

Parliament

"The Provincial Parliament opened on Friday last in

Quebec. The speech from the throne, which we give in another place refers to many important subjects, which, if the government are not defeated, will probably be adjusted in some manner before the House is prorogued There are rumours of changes of the Administration by admitting Mr Bell of Russell as Provincial Secretary, Mr Ferguson Blair becoming Solicitor General West.

"The Globe is not at all pleased at this prospect and seems to be confident that it will not succeed with the Upper Canada supporters of the Administration As usual at the opening of parliament, Quebec is full of all sorts of rumors with regard to politics, and each party is confident of supremacy. Of course no one knows with certainty what will be the end, but we do not wish to see the scenes of last session repeated We have not heard yet whether the opposition will move amendments to the address or not, but there is a rumor that they will test the Government on their financial policy and not on the address If they are guilty of so much propriety as this it will be the first offence of the kind "

Our County Buildings

"It is with much satisfaction that we observe the near prospect of our county buildings being placed under contract. The plans as amended and adopted seem to meet with general approval, and we trust that nothing may occur to mar a satisfactory arrangement as regards the contracts and the ultimate completion of the whole within the required time."

In the issue of March 9th, appears a full report of a two days' session of the Provisional County Council, at which the various tenders for building the Court House and Gaol were considered. They varied from $31500 00 to $42089 00 The contract was awarded to John Form, of Belleville for $33146 00.

To Advertisers

We were somewhat surprised to find that the issue of May 12th was published in Picton instead of Newburgh, and

in a leading editorial, the writer explains his appearance in Picton but assigns no reason for quitting Newburgh

"As for our appearance, we would only say that for a long time two public papers have been supported in Picton, other business has increased at least four-fold and we give the people of the county sufficient credit for public spirit, to trust them for a generous patronage, if the object is really deserving. We shall at all times, earnestly strive to maintain a consistent course, without respect to parties or personal affinities, on all occasions to denounce wrong and uphold right, and while we take this course, fearlessly, though we are perfectly aware that we will make enemies, we are convinced that we will meet the approval of all right thinking people whose minds are biased rather towards right than interest"

Evidently Newburgh did not appreciate the efforts of the McMullen Bros to maintain a local press in the village, and if they found that their venture there was not a paying one, it was quite natural that they should try their fortune in Picton, which was their native town

The paper retained the same advertisements that appeared in it when published in Newburgh, probably because the period over which the advertising contracts were to run had not yet expired, but there were no further news items in its columns touching upon local affairs in Lennox and Addington It is quite refreshing, however, to read the terse and sensible comments of the editor upon the general news of the day, and particularly the political situation in Canada They give us a fair glimpse at history in the making during a most important crisis in the political development of our country He sums up the advance of General Grant as follows:

The American War

"The victorious army of the Potomac still reports success Gen Grant is clearing away obstacles on the way to Richmond, which he is rapidly nearing Several encounters have taken place in the last few days, and the slaughter has been terrible, the Federals admitting 15,000

wounded. On the South Gen. Butler has defeated Beauregard, and is within ten miles of Richmond, the losses on both sides are heavy, but the advantage is with the North, every time. On the whole the tide of fortune seems turned against J. Davis & Co., and the Southern Bubble, so manfully fought for, must soon collapse."

General Grant

In a subsequent issue the reader's attention is directed to the following picture of the leader of the Northern army:

"A clergyman writes from the army of the Potomac of an interview with Lieutenant General Grant, whom he met sitting in a once elegant mansion, with a New York paper in his hand quietly enjoying his cigar:—'Like everyone else who meets him, we were charmed with his quiet, modest simplicity and manly bearing. He is a low voiced, diffident man with fair skin and brown hair-locks younger even than Fremont and talks slowly like one used to keeping his own secrets. He says he never had a headache. God grant he may have no headache during the coming eventful month. When I rallied him pleasantly about the traditional cigar, which he used as Napoleon did the snuff-box, he smilingly replied 'When the war is over I am going to give it up'. He has the most undoubted confidence in the troops. In every tent we hear the same spontaneous testimony'."

In the interval between the dates of the last number published in Newburgh, March 16th, and the first number published in Picton, May 12th, the government of John Sandfield Macdonald, unable any longer to command a majority of votes in the House, resigned on the 21st of March. The Governor, Lord Monck, was at his wits' end. It seemed a difficult task to form any government that could long remain in office. The tension between the two provinces was increasing every day. He tendered the honor of forming a ministry to two different ex-ministers but each in turn failed to select a cabinet. He then turned to the much abused "Corruptionists", Sir Etienne Taché and John A. Macdonald, who for the second time assumed the reins. The North American in its first Picton issue,

gives its readers an indication of its views upon the combination:

Parliamentary

"The acceptance of office by a new Government, the re-election of its members and their meeting Parliament has been a political topic for the last few weeks, and as a motion of want of confidence is soon to be moved, we will probably be fully satiated with political squabbling this summer as we were last. What the prospects of the stability of the ministry are, we do not know, but it must be a matter of regret that political revolutions should be so frequent in Canada. As regards the present House, it is perfectly plain that conducting a Government with it, is a delicate piece of business, and nearly every political prophet looks forward to a general election as imminent.

"How the present administration would stand in the event of an appeal to the country is a matter of great doubt; there are several of its members not at all popular in Upper Canada, and the vote of her constituencies in the aggregate would be averse to it; on the other hand, in the Lower Province, the opposite would be the case, but which side would get the largest sectional majority is always a matter of uncertainty. For our part, we believe that no strong Government can be formed till some understanding is arrived at, whereby sectional issues will be, to a certain extent, abandoned, and the violent personal differences now existing amicably settled."

Although the editor's sanctum had been shifted, and his paper no longer touched upon matters of local interest in Lennox and Addington, yet we cannot forbear reproducing a few more editorials touching upon the political crisis at Quebec. These articles give the history of that crisis an interesting personal touch, and the able manner in which the editor handled the public questions of the day might well serve as a guide to many present day editors of our Provincial newspapers.

The Tache-Macdonald Government was having a tempestuous time with their ship of state. They would no sooner weather one storm than they would encounter

another We are familiar with the facts of those pre-confederation days as we read them in our histories, but in these editorials written at a time when the future was in doubt and men were gathering in groups on the street corners and wondering what would happen next, we get some idea of the nervous strain that the statesmen of that time were undergoing Here we have an editor in a small country town who feels the responsibility of his position He has his political favorites but realizes that the time has come when there must be a change. The affairs of the union between Upper and Lower Canada had not been running smoothly for years Nearly everyone was convinced that one government could not legislate in all matters for both provinces, yet owing to their geographical position and mutual commercial interests, they could not very well be wholly separated Some sort of union was necessary What was it to be? The bad blood aroused by the frequent dissolutions did not make the task of solving the problem an easy one We can read between the lines of the following editorials that apprehension that all was not well The question that seemed to loom up large on the political horizon was, "what next?" To add to the difficulty of the situation, the finances of the country were in bad shape with no immediate prospect of improvement. There were four view-points of the crisis, none of which could be disregarded —the racial, religious, economic and political. Well might the editor of a small country newspaper quake before them. The more we read such editorials as are here reproduced, the more respect will we have for the Fathers of Confederation who sank their political differences, grappled with the question and laid a firm foundation for our Dominion which has awakened the admiration and envy of the statesmen of the world when confronted with similar complications.

Fall of the Ministry

"The Tache-Macdonald Government were defeated on Tuesday night last by a majority of 2, the votes standing 60 to 58 We would give the yeas and nays, only that in the report furnished by the Globe we find, on counting, that there are but 52 names given among the nays. The

question was on an amendment to go into a Committee of Supply, moved by Mr A A Dorion to condemn the $100,000 transaction with the City of Montreal and the Grand Trunk Railway Messrs Rankin and Dunkin voted yea on the amendment The motion was accepted as one of Want of Confidence, and it is likely that a dissolution will take place, though we have not yet heard."

A Coalition

"Last week we made the announcement that the Tache-Macdonald Government were defeated, and gave as our opinion, in accordance with the generally conceived impression that dissolution of the house would take place. The events of the past week, however, have completely revolutionized the political horizon, and led many to even doubt the evidence of their own senses

"Shortly after the defeat of the administration, Mr J A Macdonald and Mr Galt called on Mr George Brown, who has so long and strenuously opposed them, Mr Brown promptly responded to the call and a basis for the settlement of our sectional and constitutional difficulties was at once broached and discussed

"Announcements are being made from day to day by the Government and Mr Brown, as to the success and progress of affairs, and it is likely that a final settlement was made yesterday, Wednesday afternoon

"To say that the announcement by Mr Macdonald, of the fact that the negotiations were going on with Mr Brown took the House and country by surprise, would be a weak form of expression, the matter completely astounded everybody, as the universal opinion was, that the disputes of former years had made an impassable breach between Mr Brown and the members of the old Coalition Government.

"After more mature reflection, however, the general opinion seems to be that the step was wise and the prospect of a speedy and permanent settlement of our difficulties by a federal union, as is proposed is gratefully hailed as a relief from the continual agitation and disputing of the last seven or eight years

"Thus far, it is admitted on all hands, the proceedings have been conducted with the utmost candor and fairness, and the disinterested conduct of the members of the Government, as well as Mr. Brown, is highly creditable to their loyal devotion to the true interests of the country.

"In agreeing upon a federal union as a basis of the settlement of our constitutional difficulties, we believe that the only feasible one has been selected, not that it will be the most advantageous to Upper Canada, but is more fair on the whole, than any other.

"It would be premature to give the proposed policy in anything like detail, as it has not yet been officially announced, but we would merely remark that each province will have a separate Legislature for local matters and then a General Legislative body, as well as a Government for the management of affairs pertaining to both provinces, and in the lower branch of the general body the representation will be based on population.

"This is an outline of the scheme as proposed, and so far it meets with a hearty approval, although there are some mal-contents.

"We believe it is the plain duty of every good citizen to at least give the new arrangement a fair and impartial trial, watch closely their administrative acts, as well as their legislative movements, and if they honestly and fairly endeavour to remedy the existing evils and smooth the ill-feeling between the two sections, give them an open and hearty support, and on the other hand, if their course is one of selfish aggrandizement, and their talk of devotion and self-sacrifice merely a sham, we would be among the first to put forth our little assistance to doom them as public men. But the risk, under the circumstances, would be too great for anything but an open and guileless proceeding for the characters of everyone concerned would be blasted forever, were the least semblance of double-dealing to be discovered.

"They have undertaken a vast responsibility, and while they set themselves to the performance of the task no factious obstacles should be thrown in the way; let them be closely watched, and rigorously judged, not by the past

history of any one of them, but exclusively on their merits"

Coalitions

"Now that the surprise of the Canadian people has somewhat subsided, after the remarkable political revolution of the last two weeks it may be well for everyone to calmly ask himself the question "What may be expected from such a fusion?" For our part, when the news of a probable coalition between Messrs Brown, Galt, Cartier and John A. Macdonald arrived, we were perfectly incredulous and even when it became beyond the possibility of a doubt, we could scarcely credit our eye-sight. So determined and violent has been the conduct of these men towards each other for years past that an understanding between them seemed almost impossible

"But now that it has been fully, clearly, and definitely explained and the reasons fairly and we believe honestly given, we must admire the self-abnegation which prompted the furtherance of negotiations to so successful an issue.

"To take the history of the men most prominent in bringing about the formation of this coalition, and look at the palpably inconsistent position in which it places them, we can easily understand how readily their motives are questioned by many

"First comes Mr John A Macdonald who has been in Parliament since 1843, he entered a strong Conservative, and violently opposed Responsible Government, and every approach to Constitutional Reform This continued up to 1854 and in the meantime the Clergy Reserve question was agitating the country and had been the means of destroying many public men Mr Macdonald had all along opposed any settlement which would deprive the Established Church of the lands. In 1854 however, upon the formation of the Coalition Government, the same John A Macdonald was the very man to take up this matter and put it finally to rest, and if he ever did a good act, he did it then It is not necessary to follow him through the various corrupt acts of his famous eight years tenure of office. They are too well known to need any further ventilation Many men before him have, under extreme necessity, given way to

the exorbitant demands of clamorous and unprincipled supporters. At the present time he stands admitted by all parties, after a chequered political life, to be the most consummate parliamentary tactician that Canada has ever seen.

"Following him let us take a look at the great bugbear of the habitants, the man who has been represented to the simple hearted French Canadians as ready at any time to see them and their institutions, with all they hold dear, mercilessly immolated on the altar of Upper Canada; who has been pictured to their imaginations as at all times but watching for an opportunity to completely wipe out Lower Canada and place it beyond this mundane sphere. Mr George Brown, since coming to Canada has always been an extreme man, and by that means has been debarred from ever occupying positions of trust and responsibility, and considering his great ability, this has often been a cause of regret among his friends. He assisted to destroy Mr Hinck's Government, and then in turn violently denounced John A. and his colleagues of the Coalition; and his immense direct influence in Upper Canada may be judged from the fact that over 40 members now represent Upper Canada constituencies, who were elected to further the views, in the main, held and advocated by Mr Brown. That Mr Brown has sometimes allowed his personal feelings to get the better of his judgment, we readily believe, and being a man of strong prejudices he has often committed grave errors, but many have noticed with pleasure, that the last two or three years have softened to some extent, the asperities of his temper, and modified in some degree his extreme political views.

"In fostering and keeping alive sectional prejudices, perhaps no man more resembles Mr Brown than Mr G E Cartier, whom we will reckon as third in our category.

"Violently and exclusively, French Canadian in all his sympathies, he has long been the favorite representative of the Church party in Lower Canada. A rebel in 1837, he is now super-loyal in all his professions, and we must admit that for years past no act of his can be construed to divest us of the belief that he is sincere in his present

professions Mr Cartier holds a high place in the affections of his fellow-countrymen, but this much cannot be said of him in Upper Canada and indeed it may surprise the sturdy yeomanry of this Province how he and Mr Brown who may be looked upon as the leaders of our sectional parties, can quietly and comfortably come to an agreement after years of such violent and merciless denunciation.

"Of Mr T A Galt it may be said, that being an English member from Lower Canada he has never been so mixed up with the sectional and religious matters as some others We would only say, however, in order to show that almost every man may commit inconsistent acts, that he signed the Annexation Manifesto in 1849, while he now ranks as a Conservative of the first water It is chiefly with his administrative acts that fault is found, and extravagance and corruption boldly charged.

"But in considering the question of coalition we must divest ourselves to some extent of the past history of the men who are intimately concerned in it, and impartially consider it on its merits

"It is well known that the question of representative reform has been a leading one in Upper Canada for years and has been the main cause of all the bad feeling engendered between the two Provinces, and the basis and first cause of this apparently incongruous union is to settle, and that forever, this question It was truthfully stated by both parties to the matter that nothing but a determination to arrange this difficulty would justify their meeting for combined political action And from the explanation given in another place from the official paper it will be seen that an earnest effort will at once be made for a satisfactory solution and the details are sufficiently fore-shadowed to promise a measure of great importance The Government, when the reconstruction takes place will embrace the ablest men in the country men who are perfectly acquainted with the workings of our political system, and who actuated as we believe they are by a desire manfully to meet and overcome the difficulties of the situation, will devote their energies fully to the

work and thus setting at rest that continued agitation which has sacrificed many of our brightest minds as well as squandered millions of our public money

"So long as this is done, they deserve support, for surely no one is anxious to see repeated the continued state of uncertainty of which the past two years have furnished an example. It is demoralizing as well as disgraceful and almost any remedy should be gladly hailed. Let us free our minds from any consideration of who it is that settles it and merely watch how it is done, and what are the prospects for the success of the plan adopted.

"The charge of bad faith has already been preferred, or at least that a sufficient guarantee has not been given. To this it need only be said that in creating such a revolution the parties concerned ran a great risk, and any semblance of duplicity would justly condemn them to the execration of the people, and forever drive them from public life.

"To every Reformer there will be one regret in thus associating politically with those whom we have for years opposed, and that is the necessary separation from the gallant band of Liberals from Lower Canada under the leadership of Mr Dorion. They have for years stood by Upper Canada and their chivalrous self-denial, for self-denial it was, has earned for them a high place in the hearts of Reformers in this Province, and while their opposition is sincere, it will, we hope, be divested of all taint of personal feeling and that no overt act of hostility on the part of either will ever cause them to be regarded by us with anything but the most profound respect and esteem."

Federation

"It would certainly be premature to discuss in detail a measure of so complex a nature as the one given in our heading, but nevertheless the revolution of the last few weeks has made it a matter for each to think about, and calmly and dispassionately arrive at a conclusion whether in his mind it is likely to prove efficacious in quieting our difficulties and settling our constitutional mistakes. It may not be improper to give an epitome of our political history,

as far as this is concerned, since the Union, in order that we may see clearly what has brought on the existing state of affairs. In 1840 when the Union, which has created so many difficulties and so much contention and strife, urged on by the Imperial Government was effected, Lower Canada possessed a large preponderance in population and this was the cause of so much grumbling by the French Canadian members, as it unjustly gave Upper Canada too large a share in the management of public affairs and the expenditure of money But it was then urged as an anti-revolutionary measure, and mainly carried by outside pressure. In the course of a few years, however, as the fertile West began to be known, and the superiority of climate and soil better appreciated and taken advantage of Upper Canada began to fill up until it first balanced and then surpassed Lower, and this fact, coupled with some jealousies and animosities gave rise to the sectional cry of Representation by Population. Some parties have even gone so far as to say that a dissolution of the Union, pure and simple, would be preferable to the present state of the case, but the folly of this will at once be seen when we look at the geographical position of both provinces, and fancy how Upper Canada would keep good her passage to the sea and Lower her connection with the grain ports of the West. But this very reasonable request for Representation by Population has often been advocated in so partisan a manner, and even the religious professions of the Lower Canadians held as a ground why Upper Canada should be no longer deprived of her fair representation, that the question has almost become a matter of conscience with the Roman Catholics, and thus the bitterness and acerbity which have attended many of the debates on the subject at various times in the House.

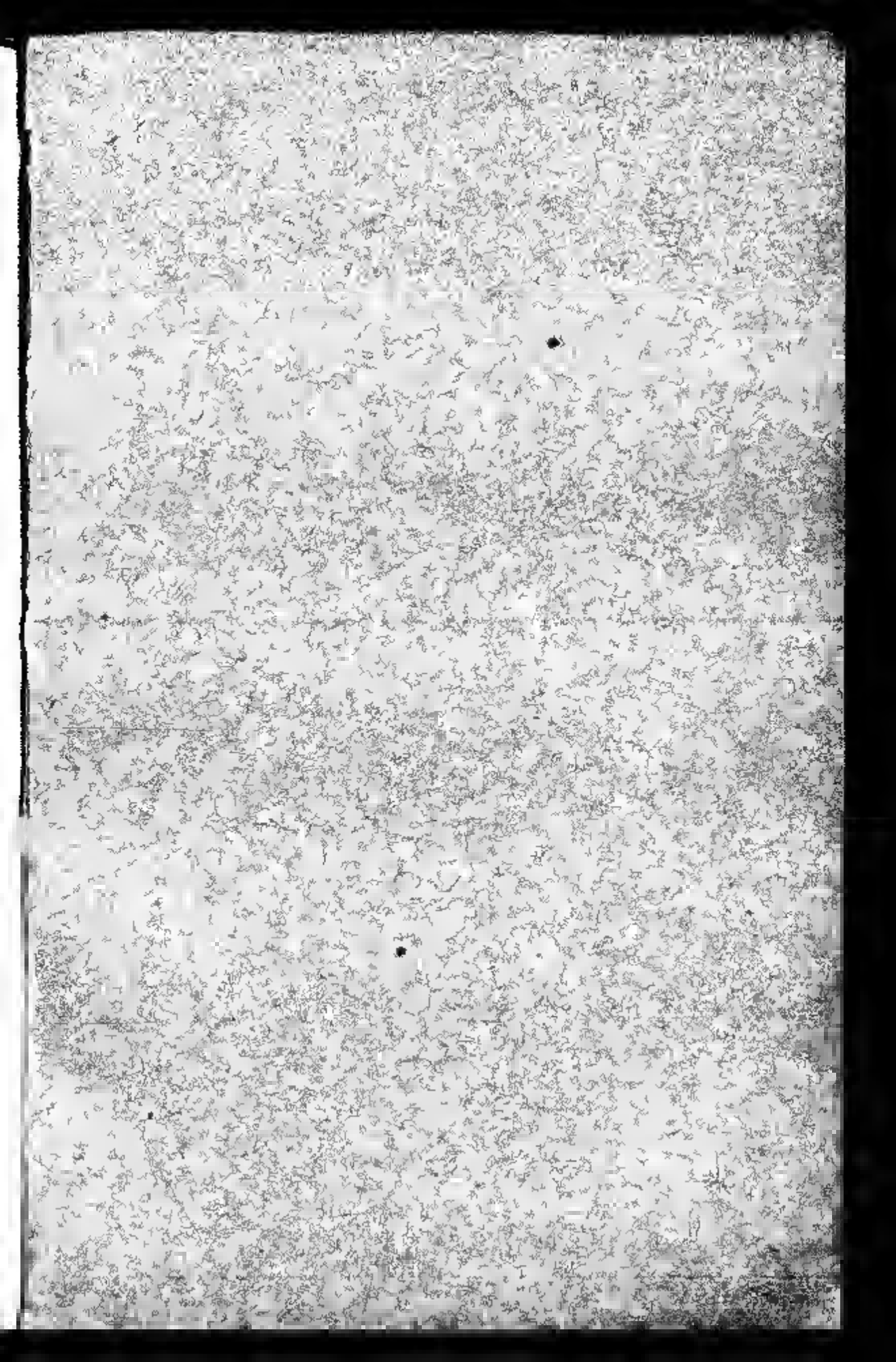
"But for the last few years it has been evident, even to the most enthusiastic supporters of the measure, that without some compromise it would be impossible to carry it, and even Mr Brown who may be almost looked upon as the father of the scheme, has repeatedly declared that he was ready and willing to accept any compromise which would give this Province her fair share of justice, and

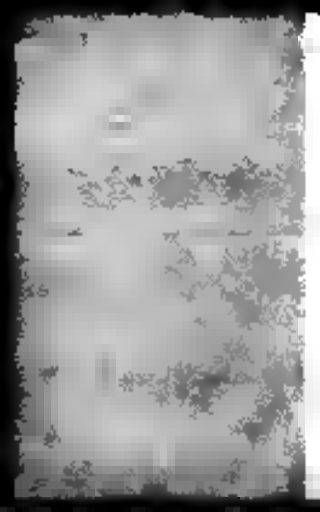
declaring at the same time that he had no desire to interfere in any way with the peculiar institutions of our neighbours. It will be remembered that during the last session Mr. Brown succeeded in having a committee of 20 leading members of the House, of all shades of political opinions, appointed to take into consideration our difficulties, and report upon a scheme which they deemed most expedient as a permanent basis for final settlement. This committee, which embraced Messrs. Brown, Macdonald, Cartier, Galt, McDougall and Mowat, the most prominent members of the new Cabinet in the Assembly, reported nearly unanimously in favor of a Federal Union of all the British North American Provinces, there being but three dissenting voices. Indeed the measure is by no means new, Mr. Galt has long advocated it and when the probable results are carefully scanned it will be seen that it is a most important as well as advantageous change for us. To be sure the particulars of the measure are not fully arranged, but such is the general desire for it here as well as in the Lower Provinces that we look for a speedy and satisfactory basis. In this plan, of course, Upper Canada being the most numerously populated, of any of the contracting states, will have the largest representation in the lower branch of the proposed General Legislature, and consequently the heaviest share of influence. Some indeed are found who think that it will positively injure us to be connected with the poorer Provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, etc., but a glance at their balance sheets would at once dispel any such illusions and even should our material resources give us any great advantage over them yet the inevitable incorporation of the North West Territory and also British Columbia and Vancouver's Island with their vast undeveloped wealth would more than counter-balance any such drawback.

"It must be truly pleasing to any truly loyal Canadian to think that while a fearful civil war is raging among our immediate neighbours, with true devotion to the British Crown we are on the eve of a bloodless revolution, the results of which will be to raise Canada from a mere

Province to the chief corner stone in the great British North American nation

"Such a prospect deserves the most earnest attention of our public men, and while they are earnestly and faithfully working to accomplish it, none but the disappointed and the jealous will try to throw serious obstacles in their way. Their labors should be closely watched, but so long as they sincerely endeavour to carry out their pledges every possible leniency should be shown and we mistake Upper Canadians if they do not most effectually frown down any attempts at a factious opposition to the first real display of statesmanship which we have seen for years."





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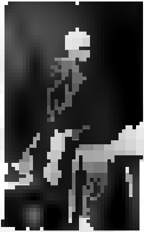
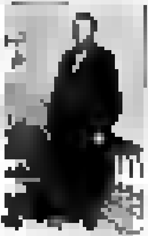
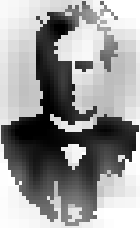

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